

THE TIMES

the Attorney General comes, as he does here, and tells us that he has a prerogative. If he alone is the one who can say whether the criminal law should be enforced in our courts or not, then I say he has no such prerogative. He has no prerogative to dispense with the laws of England'—Lord Denning giving judgment yesterday

Judges reject Mr Silkin's argument on constitutional role

of Appeal, in upholding the right of an individual in law when the Attorney General has refused it for a relator action, has strongly criticized the that Mr Silkin put forward last week in defending

his role. At the House of Commons Mr Silkin said yesterday that he refused his consent in a move against a Post Office boycott of South Africa for political reasons, and that he might appeal to the Lords.

Right of individuals to go to court is upheld

open to every citizen who comes and complains that the law is being broken. So long as he has a proper case for consideration, we will hear it. No one shall forbid him access. He is not to be turned away on some technical objection about locus standi."

Mr Silkin's contention that he was answerable to Parliament alone was "a direct challenge to the rule of law," Lord Denning said.

He was convinced that the Attorney General's discretion to refuse was not absolute or unfettered. "If he takes into account matters which he ought not to take into account, or fails to take into account matters which he ought to take into account, then his decision can be overridden by the court; not directly, but indirectly.

"If he misdirects himself in coming to his decision, the court can say, 'Very well, then. If you do not give your consent, or your reasons, we will hear

Denning profile

Parliamentary report

Judge in dock

Leading article

Law Report

"When the Attorney General comes, as he does here, and tells us that he has a prerogative by which he alone is the one who can say whether the criminal law should be enforced in these courts or not, then I say he has no such prerogative. He has no prerogative to suspend or dispense with the laws of England."

Lord Justice Lawton thought that the court would intervene only in the rare cases where there seemed no discernible reason why threatened breaches of the criminal law should not be restrained. The court would vigorously deny relief to mischievous, busybodies and those who would not be personally affected by the threatened criminal acts.

The court of Appeal lifted the temporary injunctions on the two postal unions which it had imposed on January 15 on the application of Mr John Gouriet, secretary of the National Association for Free-

dom. It gave leave to the unions and the Attorney General to appeal against its declaration to the House of Lords.

Attorney General says he acted for political reasons

clear on the record that he acted on political grounds. He consulted Mr Verley, the Secretary of State for Industry, and Mr Booth, Secretary of State for Employment, and apparently they advised that the intervention of the Attorney General might lead to a general strike by postmen. He therefore refused to authorize the action for injunction brought by Mr John Gouriet, official of the National Association for Freedom. That brought him into collision with Lord Denning and his colleagues.

"There was a great risk that wider industrial action would be taken if the Attorney General intervened." Mr Silkin said. He left no doubt that he had consulted Cabinet minis-

ters and then "exercised my own judgement about it". He thought there was a serious risk of industrial action by Post Office unions, and, for historic reasons, he thought it was important for the Government to be intervening in what he called "an industrial field". The whole operation was to keep industrial relations out of the courts.

Asked whether the judges were going up against the executive "asid I do not want to see a clash", Let the courts and Parliament keep to their respective roles, Mr Silkin said. He added: "If Parliament has suspicions about the motives of the judges, then I should be very worried."

As the Attorney General saw it, he had done no more than all his predecessors had done

Continued on page 2, col 3

Carter plan for faster growth unveiled

From Frank Vogl
US Economics Correspondent
Washington, Jan 27

The Carter Administration's three main economic policy officials today presented the budget committee of the House of Representatives with the full details of the President's stimulative economic programme, complete with forecasts for the domestic economy, United States credit markets and the world economy.

Mr Michael Blumenthal, Secretary of the Treasury, said the United States must expect a larger deficit in its current account balance of payments this year. He said the Government was encouraging West Germany and Japan to stimulate their own economies in much the same way as the United States planned to do in order to help developing nations and such countries as Britain, France, Italy and Mexico to achieve faster growth.

Dr Charles Schultze, chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers, told the committee that the programme would cost \$31,200m (£18,000m) over two years. It should produce real growth in the gross national product this year of between 5% and 6 per cent.

Mr Bert Lance, the director of the office of Management and Budget, said that the programme would add "modest general stimulus" to the economy. There was "little evidence to justify concern" that the programme might be

inflationary, given the great degree of slack in the economy.

Dr Schultze believed that unemployment by the fiscal quarter of this year should be down to 6.7 to 6.9 per cent, considerably lower than would be the case without a stimulative programme.

The programme was vitally needed because "the recovery from the worst recession of the past 40 years has to date been disappointing and without vigorous action, it shows signs of continuing disappointment".

Mr Blumenthal said that although the budget deficit would be increased, strains on the credit markets were most improbable. He forecast that interest rates would rise "only very marginally".

Present policies in the main industrial nations suggested some slackening in economic growth this year, he said. The United States programme represented a "world approach" to help the international economy at this time.

The American programme was likely to stimulate world trade, helping weaker countries to reduce their payment deficits. But the effect of more stimulative policies by the strong countries (the United States, Japan and West Germany) should not be overestimated. He forecast that the "big three" countries would increase their combined import demand by about \$4,000m, of which only about two-thirds could directly benefit the financially weaker countries.

A sniper shot him in the back as he crossed a hallway of his cinema school in Hollywood.—Agence France-Presse.



Vice-President Mondale with Mr Callaghan at the press conference after their talks yesterday.

Premier will lead way to Washington

By David Spanier
Diplomatic Correspondent

Mr Callaghan will be the first Western Prime Minister to meet President Carter. An invitation to visit Washington from March 10-12 was delivered to the Prime Minister by Vice-President Mondale at the start of their talks yesterday, and accepted.

The Vice-President's discussions at Downing Street yesterday afternoon, followed by a working dinner, were brief but evidently sufficient to set the stage for the two leaders' discussions at the press conference after their talks yesterday.

While little of substance emerged from the two leaders' press conference, held at the Government's new press centre in the Bath Club off St James's, it was clear that a wide range of subjects was covered in their talks.

Apart from the economic outlook, in which they discussed the venue and possible date of the summit meeting, they touched on development and the Third World, nuclear and conventional disarmament, Cyprus and the Middle East.

Our Rome Correspondent writes: Mr Mondale called on the Pope this morning to deliver President Carter's best wishes "and receive from you your impressions concerning the great humanitarian and moral issues of our time".

They were together for more than an hour in the Pope's private library.

Brezhnev meeting: President Carter said today that he will meet Mr Brezhnev, the Soviet Communist Party leader, later this year to determine how much the Russians will cut back on strategic arms before deciding United States policy.

"My own hope is to explore every possible way with the Soviet Union to cut down dependence on weapons of all kinds", Mr Carter told a group of 350 students in Washington.

Government plans to cut public spending by £1,200m next year

By David Blake
Economics Correspondent

Public spending in Britain will be £1,200m lower in real terms next year than this, the first such fall during the decade. The Government White Paper on public expenditure, published yesterday (further details, page 2) shows that total expenditure during 1977-78, which begins this April, is expected to be £52,502m in 1976 prices compared with £53,968m during 1976-77.

This is because the figures for the remaining years to 1982 in the five-year programme, which is normally covered by the working of the Public Expenditure Survey Committee (PESC), were "not further reviewed in the light of the developments which led to the measures announced on December 15".

That is a polite way of saying they are thought to be too high. Although the provisional figures for individual programmes will be published up to 1980, the first such fall during the decade. The Government will make a "fiscal adjustment" of that amount. There is no commitment that this will take the form of public spending cuts, but ministers are to be given the option as an alternative to raising taxes.

This year's White Paper makes no attempt to provide the kind of detailed projections of the use of resources in the economy which have been contained in previous expenditure surveys. But it does spell out very clearly the grim economic situation which provides the backdrop to the £1,624m net reduction in planned expenditure for 1977-78 which was carried out in the changes made since the last White Paper in February, 1976.

During the past 15 years, the rate of growth of productivity in the United Kingdom has been barely two thirds of the average of industrial nations in the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development.

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Embe Street ss identifies nen in dock

he identified four Irishmen in the Central Criminal Court as the held him and his wife prisoner Balcombe Street, London, for five months. Mr Matthews said: "All treated in any way at all." A read to the court in which Mrs Matthews described the killing of Ross, at their home in Enfield, Page 2

Mass demolitions feared in Manchester

Unless adequate grants and subsidies for the improvement of older houses are forthcoming Manchester may have to demolish many of the 40,000 homes it is hoping to modernize. Councillor Allan Roberts, chairman of the city council's housing committee, says. An average of about £6,000 is needed to be spent on each property but the Government granted less than £3,000.

There had now been four decisions including Laker air services and the present one, that indicated the willingness

Continued on page 2, col 3

Tate & Lyle statement

Tate & Lyle issued a statement in which it said the company rejected allegations made in an article in The Times yesterday based on the Controller and Auditor General's report on the supply of cane sugar in 1975. The company said it "acted with every propriety in all the transactions covered by the Controller's report". Page 19

'Moby Dick' price record

A first edition of *Moby Dick*, in its original title, *The Whale*, became the most expensive work of fiction to be sold at auction when it fetched £30,813 in New York. Herman Melville's famous novel is recognized as one of the great works of American nineteenth-century literature.

Page 18

Windscale closed: A strike by nearly 3,000 men over pay closed the nuclear power plant at Windscale, Cumbria.

Salisbury: Mr Smith receives a vote of confidence from the Rhodesian Front.

Nice: A three-page Special Report on the capital of the French Riviera and its impact on the region.

Lending: Minimum lending rate could be cut by as much as three-quarters of a point to 12.5 per cent today.

Business News, pages 12-16

Stock market: Equities moved ahead strongly and the FT Index closed 9.1 up at 390.7. Gilt yields were strong at the long end of the range.

Financial Editor: Changing gear on interest rates: Plessey lays some *glosses*.

Business features: Kenneth Owen examines the background to IBM's review of its interest in world operations.

Royal Mail: Royal Mail describes the moves behind the multi-million pound capital investment plans by the brewers.

Business Diary: A new head for the Post Office?

Features, pages 12 and 16

Marcel Berlin on how Parliament can put the judge in the dock; Caroline Moorehead on a majestic display that is going to make a royal best seller.

Sport, pages 10 and 11

Athletics: British athletes gather support for boycott of countries encouraging apartheid; Tennis: Rex Bellamy on the defeat of Philadelphia; Rugby: Peter Williams comments on Welsh team to meet France; Cricket: John Woodcock previews fourth Test.

Business Diary: A new head for the Post Office?

Features, pages 12 and 16

Law Report: The Court of Appeal has ruled that the Attorney General has a prerogative to dispense with the laws of England.

Letters, pages 17 and 22

Science: The Science Editor discusses the surprise meeting provided grounds for hope.

Sale Room: The Sale Room section of the paper.

TV & Radio: The TV & Radio section of the paper.

Theatres, etc: The Theatres, etc section of the paper.

Universities: The Universities section of the paper.

Weather: The Weather section of the paper.

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HOME NEWS

Balcombe Street prisoner identifies four men in dock

Mr John Matthews was asked at the Central Criminal Court yesterday if he could identify the men who held him and his wife prisoner in their flat in Balcombe Street, Westminster, for five days in December, 1975.

He looked across the hushed courtroom at the four Irishmen in the dock and said: "I know the four defendants."

Mr Matthews, aged 55, a Post Office worker, went on to describe how four gunmen burst into his flat while fleeing from the police.

He said: "There was a commotion outside in the road, a lot of noise and shouting. I looked out of the window and saw police cars and policemen hiding behind cars and looking up the road."

"I went out on to the balcony, but was told to get back inside by officers below because there were more men there."

He was inside and closed the door to the balcony, and soon afterwards the doorbell rang. He opened it thinking it was the police, but was confronted by the four defendants.

"They forced my wife and me back into the sitting room and then they switched off the light," he said. An armchair was taken out of the sitting room and put against the front door as a barricade.

When the police knocked on the door his wife was forced to tell them to go away. He was tied up with stockings.

One of the four men had dialled 999. The conversation was to the effect that they had two hostages. The caller said: "Do not try to break in."

Mr Matthews said he heard

someone using a loudhailer call on the men to surrender. Asked about a telephone call from his daughter, he said: "We have heard since that a number of telephone calls came in from relatives, but they were never put through to us."

He said the television was switched on and the news gave details of the night's events. Asked about the men's response, he said: "There were photographs or pictures taken of vehicles, one with a bullet hole in it. They laughed about what had happened and said that the police had shot that themselves."

Mr Matthews said his feet remained tied from the Sunday night until the next Friday morning, although his hands were released some time earlier.

He described how they spent the first night. "We smoked and smoked and there were small bottles of mixer drinks and we drank that."

"There was a full bottle of whisky but the four men did not touch any of the spirits at all, although it was available. They did clean their teeth with the whisky at the end."

During the siege, he continued, the police communicated with the gunmen on a field telephone or with a loudhailer. Provisions, cigarettes and pills for his wife, who had been ill, were lowered to the flat. His wife spent much of the time

curled up in an armchair, and he lay on the settee.

Asked if, apart from the discomfort of imprisonment, they were ill treated, Mr Matthews said: "We were not ill treated in any way at all. They spoke roughly sometimes, but physically, no." He said there was a plan for a break out in which he was to be used, dressed up as one of the gunmen.

It happened on the Friday, just before they were released. His feet were untied and he was made to put on a sports jacket belonging to one of the four men. The plan was not explained, but it involved his car, which was parked outside flats.

"My wife and I walked round the room to make sure we could walk after having had no exercise. Then, for no apparent reason at that time, the break-out was called off."

"We had a small transistor radio in the flat and the four listened in to almost every news bulletin. There was a mention that the SAS [Special Air Service Regt] were on hand."

Asked by Mr Justice Cantley how he thought his and his wife were to have been used in the break-out, Mr Matthews said: "I assumed we were both going out with the men."

Then came the change of heart and they were freed.

The negotiations during the siege were described by Commander James Neville, head of the bomb squad, who at the time was a detective chief superintendent.

He said that in a call to the police information room, the caller said he was speaking on behalf of the negotiations were

carried on with Tom—it turned out to be Mr O'Connell—and they managed to strike up some rapport.

Mr Imbert, now Assistant Chief Constable of Surrey, said that on the morning of Friday December 12, Tom asked what the conditions of surrender were, and was told that they should put down their guns, free Mr and Mrs Matthews, and give themselves up.

Mrs Matthews was freed and the siege ended a couple of hours later when Mr Matthews was released and the four men surrendered, he said.

Det Constable Patrick O'Connor said two .357 Astra Magnums, a .38 Colt revolver, another .38 revolver and a Browning automatic, all fully loaded, were recovered from the flat.

A statement in which Mrs Rosemary McWhirter described her confrontation with her husband's killers was read to the jury earlier.

Mrs McWhirter said two men pointed guns at her as she got out of her car at her home at Enfield, London. One of them demanded her keys. At gunpoint she pressed the front-door bell and her husband, Ross, opened the door.

She ran into the hall and then the kitchen and heard two shots. She saw her car being driven away and her husband lying just inside the front door. He was covered in blood. She screamed and ran across the road to raise the alarm. She would not "like to be in a position to identify the assailants" because the incident happened so quickly.

The trial continues today.

Devolution deal is denied by Mr Foot

By Our Political Staff

No "deal or bargain" has been entered into by the Government to reduce the number of Scottish and Welsh MPs at Westminster and increase the number from Northern Ireland in return for an assurance of votes on a possible guillotine motion to shorten proceedings on the devolution Bill, Mr Foot,

Leader of the House, told the Commons yesterday.

Ministers are not denying, however, that serious consideration is being given to the inclusion in the Bill of such a reduction in Scottish and Welsh representation in the light of demands made during the second reading debate and later.

Not do they deny that the Government will eventually bring in a guillotine motion. It is only a matter of timing.

When it is patently clear, and some would say the stage has been reached already, that the Bill can get through only if a timetable is imposed, Mr Foot will put down the motion. He will delicately not accuse the opponents of filibustering.

One of the five points on which the Liberals want a Government promise, in return for their cooperation, concerns a reduction in the seats at Westminster, and that could be achieved by an amendment to the Bill without it being necessary to have a Speaker's Conference on the subject.

Mr Donald Anderson, Labour MP for Swansea, East, asked Mr Foot about persistent press reports that "as part of a deal to bring in a guillotine" the Government was proposing to reduce the Welsh and Scottish representation.

Replies, Mr Foot said: "No deal has been made by me or by any other member of the Government on the subject."

"What appeared in *The Times* today was a speculative report and those who read it can see that the author was careful to frame what he said in speculative terms. It is natural that journalists should speculate, because these are among the topics which have been raised in the House, and the Government has given an undertaking to consider what is said in the House of Commons."

Mr Foot was unable to say when the Government would be able to introduce new clauses providing for referendums in Scotland and Wales, but it was ready to change the order of debate so that it would be considered in advance of other proposed new clauses.

When Mr Thorpe, the former Liberal leader, asked about reports that the Government would arrange for the referendum to be held after the Bill had completed its passage in the Commons, and before it came before the Lords, Mr Foot gave a firm denial. "The appropriate time will be when Parliament has made its decision on the Act," he said.

White Paper pro £31m more health

By Pat Healy and Neville Hodgkinson

The health services are being asked to make further cuts of £3m in 1977-78 and £28m in 1978-79 under the terms of the public expenditure White Paper published yesterday. The cuts are expected to fall mainly on drugs and the administrative costs of family practitioner committees.

Local authorities, which are asked to take a large share of the proposed cuts, may have to reduce staff by up to 30,000 and some services may be reduced.

Total savings in health and personal social services will be £236m more over the four years to 1978-79 than had been estimated in the expenditure White Paper last February. The new cuts are seen as targets by the Department of Health and Social Security, because no specific decisions have been taken yet.

However, Mr Eunus, Secretary of State for Social Services, is concerned at over-prescribing by doctors. It is estimated that the average family doctor prescribed £12,000 worth of drugs in 1975-76, costing the service £17,900 after pharmacy fees and costs were added.

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White Paper NEWS

£31m more Doctors depressed by health service failures BMA tells royal commission

If some rationalization cannot be achieved the responsibility for modifying public expectation from the service must rest with Government. "The medical profession must not be compelled to continue to accept the hostility which the public feels when denied what it regards as its reasonable requirements for medical service."

The failure, the BMA says, are in quality and quantity. As disclosed last week, the evidence, which will be debated by 600 representatives of the profession in March, makes suggestions on methods of financing the service, possible charges and the need for an urgent review of medical manpower.

The association says that because from time to time it has been in dispute with the Government about the health service a myth has been propagated that the profession, and the BMA in particular, always opposed the concept and creation of a national health service.

In fact, it says, the association was in favour of such a service long before the NHS came into being, and its fundamental features were first proposed in a series of documents of which doctors were the authors.

Discussing the quality of the service, the BMA rejects the idea of any medical audit by the state. There is no need for further supervision of a qualified doctor's standard of care. There is evidence, it says that in the United States a significant number were admitted into practice in Britain although they were relatively unsuitable be-

cause of their basic medical training.

When that was aggravated by language problems and difficulties of adaptation to an alien culture, it led to instances of unsatisfactory service to patients. In turn that resulted in an unfair reaction against more skilled and able colleagues.

The association believes there should be an extension of the Temporary Registration Assessment Board's test to include a clinical component. Those who passed the test should be subject to an absolute limit of five years on the temporary register. Any doctor wishing to stay in Britain longer, or to become permanently established, should pass a full qualifying examination equivalent to that for British graduates.

The BMA says the profession opposes any suggestion of audit of standards or cost control of treatment by such a body.

It calls for an energetic research campaign into tobacco substitutes for nicotine rather than a substance to be smoked. It estimates that the total care of smoking-related disease costs far more than the revenue collected from tax on tobacco.

From the medical point of view, a severally differential tax between cigarettes on the one hand and cigars and pipe tobacco on the other would encourage a reduction in cigarette smoking and reduce the incidence of lung cancer and other diseases.

The evidence is published in the *British Medical Journal*.

Girls who put nitrate in head's tea cleared

By Our Correspondent
Chesterfield

Three girls, aged 15, who were said to have put silver nitrate in their headmaster's tea after being disciplined, were cleared at a legal point at Chesterfield Juvenile Court, Derbyshire, yesterday.

The girls all pleaded not guilty to unlawfully and maliciously causing the headmaster to take silver nitrate, with intent to injure, aggrieve or annoy. Two of them admitted stealing a phial of the nitrate worth 13p and were placed under supervision orders for two years.

But after a defence submission by Mr Geoffrey Hand that the diluted silver nitrate was not noxious or harmful, the magistrates ended the hearing.

The court was told that silver nitrate is not on the registered list of poisons.

Miss Jean Hamlyn, chairman, said: "We find there is no case to answer on a technical point of law based on the interpretation of the word 'noxious'." We are satisfied that the girls had every intention of taking revenge on their headmaster but because of the dilution of the substance their action has fallen outside the criminal law."

One of the girls' mothers was said to have delivered a letter of apology to the headmaster, which read: "I am sorry for what happened this afternoon. I am glad to hear your are all right."

Delay in announcing arts aid criticized

By Kenneth Cosling
Arts Reporter

Mr Roy Shaw, secretary-general of the Arts Council, yesterday criticized the Government for taking too long to announce the arts grant-in-aid for 1977-8, and gave a warning that it would cause confusion for the council's two thousand clients.

He said there was ever greater concern for 1978-9. The Government had announced in its public expenditure White Paper that there would be a £2.2m cut for the arts in real terms then.

After the council's monthly meeting Mr Shaw referred to the investigation of arts financing undertaken by Mr Lever, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, which he said, had "disappeared without trace". The Government had said the grant for 1978-9 would be subject to Mr Lever's report.

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One of the girls' mothers was said to have delivered a letter of apology to the headmaster, which read: "I am sorry for what happened this afternoon. I am glad to hear your are all right."

Lord Widgery, Lord Chief Justice, sitting with Lord Justice Waller and Mr Justice Acker, said there was a point of public importance.

Cuts in the government grant to the Arts Council would inevitably mean cuts in grants to clients. "I can only hope protests will be directed to the proper address, the Government, and not the piggy-in-the-middle, the Arts Council."

The council had asked for enough to cover all known needs. It was accepted that a 2 per cent increase would be needed in the coming year, raising the total from £26m to £24.3m, in order to stand still.

Mr Shaw did not think the arts should be subject to cuts; they received only a small and already inadequate sum.

The Lever report, commissioned by Sir Harold Wilson when he was Prime Minister, will not be published. Mr Callaghan said in a Commons speech last month: "It is clear that the Government can never devote the resources to the arts that it would like to, and referred to the encouragement of outside support, including business sponsorship.

John Stonehouse can go to Lords

John Stonehouse, the former MP, can ask the House of Lords to consider hearing his appeal against his conviction on five attempted insurance frauds, the Court of Appeal, which dismissed his appeal on Tuesday, decided yesterday.

Lord Widgery, Lord Chief Justice, sitting with Lord Justice Waller and Mr Justice Acker, said there was a point of public importance.

The Singapore Government will not appeal against a London court's decision that Mr James Sister had no case to answer on charges brought against him an official of the Attorney General's office said in Singapore yesterday (AP reports).

"We have no formal right to appeal because there is no provision in the Pugilists Offenders Act," he said.

Moderation in racial speeches urged

By Peter Evans
Home Affairs Correspondent

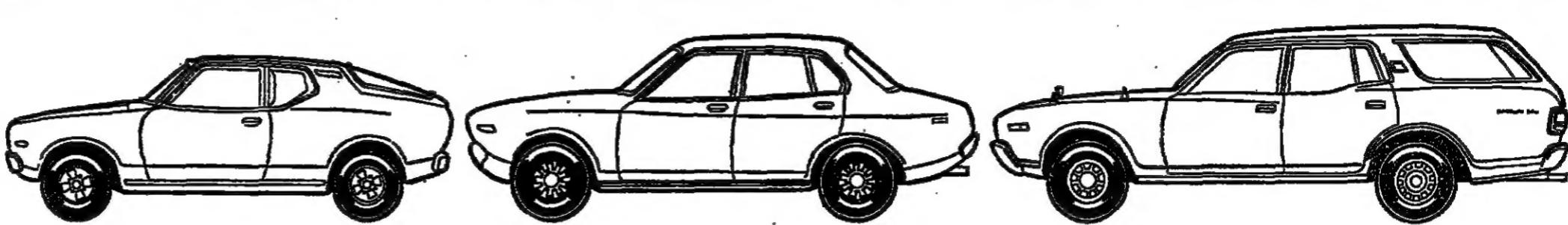
No one should be prevented from expressing views on race relations provided they are in the language of normal moderation. Mr David Lane, chairman-designate of the new Commission for Racial Equality, said yesterday.

"What has done damage to race relations in the past," he told the Derby Council for Community Relations, "is unnecessarily lurid and extravagant language, such as that of Mr Powell at Manchester last week."

Mr Powell had used the analogy of warfare and spoken of "friend and foe" and of the "colonization of key areas and of key functions in the heartlands of the kingdom", by coloured people.

Mr Lane said that in the same speech, Mr Powell talked of "heroic measures" to avert the gloomy consequences he foresees, but did not specify them. He gave warning of a threat to free speech. Mr Lane added, "but this is not the first occasion on which he has failed to use his present freedom of speech to explain exactly what solution he has in mind. Instead of spelling it out, he takes refuge in enigma".

The debate about race relations might go off the rails if those taking part in the debate — whether white or black — persistently used inflammatory language, thus making racial harmony suffer.



This year, next year, and 100,000 miles on, Datsun reliability pays dividends.

It's not just the cost of buying a car that counts...it's the bills you could face afterwards.

And that's where Datsuns proven reliability can really pay you cash dividends, whether you drive 5,000 or 50,000 miles a year.

Because Datsun build cars so carefully, and test them so thoroughly, you can expect reliability, rather than garage bills.

"Motor" magazine in a survey of the 20 top selling cars, found Datsuns the most reliable of them all.

The letters we get from Datsun owners, as you can see below, say roughly the same sort of thing including fleet owners who are delighted with the trouble-free, low cost motoring they get with Datsun.

A nationwide consumer survey showed that "far fewer" Datsuns spent time off the road than other cars, which, of course, meant that they were cheaper to maintain. In fact, AA's Drive magazine in a survey of 24 popular cars reported that the Datsun Cherry and Sunny were the cheapest on servicing and repairs.

With some other cars you will get an "early life" guarantee that may help you with the cost, but not the inconvenience, if your car breaks down in the first year, six months or maybe only 6,000 miles. After that, you're on your own, paying all the breakdown bills out of your own pocket!

With Datsun, you start collecting dividends on the very first day, with an *unlimited mileage* guarantee for 12 months which shows how confident we are in our product however far you drive. In addition you get the promise of years of reliable motoring, instead of inconvenient and costly trips to the garage workshop; fuel economy and low running costs; the masses of valuable "extras" that are part of the package...and the sheer peace of mind in owning a trouble-free motor car.

Already around 300,000 motorists in this country are driving Datsuns, and collecting the dividends that Datsun quality and reliability can give, year after year.

This year...with next year in mind...wouldn't it pay you to join them?

* Mrs. Joy Gordon, Ramsgate, Kent: "My Datsun Sunny Coupe has now done 181,000 miles. I travel 200 miles daily and have had no mechanical failures other than a replacement alternator."

* Mr. Richard Ferens, who helped to compile the report, said: "Food production interests are not given enough priority in our urban society."

* Mr. Bob Davis, Air Call Communications Ltd., Dunstable, Beds: "We have over 80 Datsuns in the U.K. equipped with radio telephones in use 24 hours a day doing very high mileage sometimes on emergency medical calls. We have tried other cars and came back to Datsun because we must have the reliability and low running costs."

Rural pursuits should be integrated so that any estate management policy should include nature conservation", Mr. Ferens said. Integration was often essential. More than a quarter of the income of upland estates came from shooting, fishing and stalking, which were compatible with farming needs.

* Mrs. A. Breman, Huddersfield (Bluebird 1800 SSS): "We are delighted at the apparent absolute reliability of this vehicle. It is marvellous to set off on a journey feeling so confident."

* W. Luck, Luck School of Motoring, St. Ives, Cambridgeshire: "My 1973 Datsun Sunny has covered 218,275 miles and is still running well on the same engine. It has not had an easy life, being a driving instructor's car for four years. Thank you for a car which has given such a wonderful service, a car which cannot be beaten."

* Mrs. B. Spencer, Spencer Driving School, Old Alresford, Hants: "My Datsun Sunny has 125,000 miles on the clock and is still going very strong. I had to tell you what a wonderful car it is."

* The Gilpin Group, Leeds (Hotels and Caterers): "We have been using Datsuns for four years and have a fleet of 15, mainly estate cars, and they are thoroughly reliable and trouble-free. Our cars do a high mileage and we are well satisfied with Datsun."

* G. Davies, Snowdon School of Motoring, Caernarfon: "My Sunny 4-door saloon has done 158,000 miles and has never let me down. The first replacement was a new clutch plate at 147,000 miles. I go out in the morning and I know I am going to do a full day's work!"

* Robin West, Sevenoaks, Kent (Two Cherry saloons 183,000 miles): "Thank you for three years happy and trouble-free motoring. Not only have all my miles been pleasure motoring—they have been most pleasurable!"

* L. H. Oddy, Marlow, Bucks (1973 Datsun Sunny 73,126 miles): "Replacements have been minimal—one thermostat at 59,180 miles, exhaust silencer, 64,002 miles, one radiator top hose. Apart from these, only normal service requirements were necessary."

* Miss Olive Giles, Thunton (Datsun Sunny): "I recently took delivery of my third Datsun. I cannot praise too highly the performance of these cars and their reliability."

* K. Miln, Eastbourne, Sussex: "My Datsun 100A 2-door Saloon has given perfect service. It is completely reliable and has given me no trouble whatsoever. Over 18 months it has averaged a staggering 46.1mpg."

* The Tudor Plant Co., Caistor, Lincs. (Civil Engineers and Oil Rig Construction Company): "We are 100% Datsun in our car fleet because we found them to be the most reliable. They are used by our engineers and are given an incredibly tough life around the inland drilling platforms and oil rigs."

* E. R. Eastwood, Atlas Driving School, Selby, Yorks: "My Datsun Sunny has completed 98,000 miles, being driven constantly by learner drivers, which can be very demanding on any vehicle. It has only let me down once, when the starter motor failed, and is still providing me with excellent service."

* C. W. Heath, Heath School of Motoring, Wivelsfield Green, Sussex (100A Cherry, 74,000 miles): "This car is on the road every day, approximately 8 learners a day...I consider the engine has done more like over 100,000 miles...as there has been so much low gear and clutch work. My only replacement has been an exhaust pipe and this was due to a pupil ditching the car. Since since the war I have owned over 30 cars, and this has been the most reliable I have ever had."

Datsun: the investment that pays dividends.



Datsun UK Limited, Datsun House, New Road, Worthing, Sussex. Tel: Worthing 68561.

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Corrections

The concern on May 29 to celebrate the Liberal Party's centenary will be given by the Birmingham Symphony Orchestra in the Albert Hall, London, not in Birmingham as stated yesterday. Access is not a cheque-guaranteed bond as an article on page 21, but it may be used to withdraw up to £30 from an Access account at any of the participating banks.

HOME NEWS

Threat of demolition for 40,000 older houses in Manchester

From John Chartres
Manchester

Manchester's housing department, which proudly announced the end of its slum-clearance programme last year, may have to demolish up to 40,000 homes that it had hoped to renovate and preserve.

That warning was given yesterday by Councillor Allan Roberts, chairman of the city council's housing committee, after inspecting rows of late-nineteenth-century terraces in the Beswick area.

He and Mr Graham Goodhead, director of housing, said the low level of government grants for restoration and improvement, and long administrative delays in approving grants with an unexpected rapid deterioration of older property, were bringing about the present situation.

Tenants and owner-occupiers of 320 houses in the area visited yesterday are 90 per cent in favour of the terraces being demolished and of the occupants being rehoused in council accommodation, according to a poll taken by a residents' organization.

That is in direct contrast to the attitude prevalent only two or three years ago when Manchester's clearance programme ran into many objections and demonstrations from residents of the old streets who did not like being disturbed.

Many of the houses visited yesterday showed signs of

damp, with cracking walls and window frames. Most of the occupiers said they had once been proud of their homes, but were now losing heart.

Housing officials said one of the reasons for the rapid deterioration of property of that type was "blight" associated with demolition work near by; but the fundamental problem was the size of government grants, providing an average of less than £3,000 a house when about £6,000 was needed to be spent either by the owner or the corporation if the latter took over the property for modernization.

Tenants and owners-occupiers in the Rylands Street area of Beswick are also looking enviously at new low-rise homes recently built by the corporation on the adjoining Orme Street site.

Mr Roberts said: "We have demolished more than 82,000 slum dwellings in Manchester. Now, just when we thought we had finished with large-scale clearance we shall have to consider yet another compulsory purchase order."

With the present government emphasis on inner-city redevelopment, the present situation in Manchester was a warning to Westminster. "Unless sufficient grants and subsidies for the improvement of older houses are forthcoming we may well have to demolish many of the 40,000 such homes in the city we were hoping to modernize," he said.

That is in direct contrast to the attitude prevalent only two or three years ago when Manchester's clearance programme ran into many objections and demonstrations from residents of the old streets who did not like being disturbed.

Many of the houses visited

yesterday showed signs of

Derelict acres bought for shops and concert hall

From Trevor Fishlock
Cardiff

Cardiff City Council's ambition to escape from embarrassment over unsightly empty land in the city centre is much nearer to realization. For 20 years the council has seen development plans come to nothing. Now it has agreed to spend almost £3m to buy eight acres of land that will open the way for a £20m development, including department stores, shops and a concert hall.

The project is a much-reduced phoenix rising from the ashes of an ambitious scheme which was put forward several years ago, but proved too expensive.

The fact that land in the centre of the city has been

empty so long is regarded by many councillors and citizens as disgraceful. The council is anxious that development work should start next year, although the price will still leave some land derelict.

The development consortium is led by the Heron Corporation, which will put £10m into the project. Boots will put in £2m, Woolworth £1m and Debenhams, who are building a new store, £5m. The Heron Corporation has asked for a £10m development, including department stores, shops and a concert hall.

The scheme has been criticized by some councillors and others as a bad bargain for the city. The critics say the return on the council's investment will be small.

Jailed PC victim of injustice

The jailing of a policeman for "kneeing" a man who just punched him on the nose was a serious miscarriage of justice, a judge said in the Court of Appeal yesterday. Roger Hill, of Runswick Road, Brislington, Bristol, a former constable, was freed from his three-month sentence, of which he had served nine days.

Lord Justice Ormrod said: "The sentence was wholly inappropriate. He should not have been sent to prison. We make a conditional discharge to make it clear to all concerned in this young man's future the view we take of the offence."

Mr Hill, aged 24, pleaded guilty at Bristol Crown Court on January 18 to common assault. He had since left the force.

The judge said that when Mr Hill was at a discotheque with another officer and their wives he was punched on the nose by a man. When the police arrested the man he continued to shout abuse, and Mr Hill, "exasperated and out of control for a moment, kneed him in the crotch".

Four accused of £360,000 raid offences

Four men appeared at West London Magistrates' Court yesterday, charged with offences linked with bank raids in which more than £360,000 is alleged to have been stolen.

John Charles Short, aged 37, horse dealer, of Hollingsway Road, South Croydon; Gerald Simmonds, aged 34, unemployed, of Wulftan Street, Shepherd's Bush; William John Ferguson, aged 24, motor trader, of Randolph Avenue, Maida Vale, and Derek Thomas, aged 34, salesman, of Webster Row, Southwark, were remanded in custody until February 20.

He said the association recruited 800 new members last year. Membership was now 5,300,000.

'Book gave girl idea of taking baby'

A schoolgirl of 15 took a baby from a pram after reading a book about a girl who snatched a child, a juvenile Court at Wimbledon on January 4.

The girl was accused of taking Sarah Maurice, aged six months, from outside a bank at South Wimbledon on January 4. Later she took the boy to a hospital and told the police what she had done. The court was told that she got the idea from a book *Sam and Me*.

In a statement read by Det Chief Inspector Bernard Davis, the girl said she heard a baby crying. "I picked it up and it stopped crying and went to sleep. Nobody was looking, it just seemed the easiest thing in the world for me to do so I just walked off with the baby."

After taking the baby home she heard on television that the police were looking for it. She took the baby to a hospital nearby where it was found.

Mr J. McA. De Burgos, for the defence, said the girl had cared for the baby excellently. The case was adjourned for three weeks for reports.

AA recruits 400 more patrolmen

The Automobile Association will spend £5m this year to recruit 400 extra patrolmen and to add 236 vehicles to its patrol fleet. Mr Alec Dowie, the director general, said yesterday that uniformed staff would number 3,200 by the end of the year compared with 2,200 in 1975.

He said the association recruited 800 new members last year. Membership was now 5,300,000.

Deer eggs

Egg prices will rise next week, according to Goldsmiths, the largest egg-marketing body in Britain. It said yesterday that prices of all grades would go up by 3p a dozen.

Gangster-style contract for wife's murder alleged

From Our Correspondent

A man tried to put out a gangster-style contract for the murder of his wife, it was alleged at Leeds' Magistrates' Court yesterday.

Harry Baskind, aged 47, of Nuwayrd Road, Leeds, was remanded in custody until February 3. He was accused of two offences of soliciting men to murder his wife. The first attempt was alleged to have taken place on January 7 and the second on Wednesday, this week.

Mr McCandlish, for the prosecution, said Mr Baskind's wife left him for another man 18 months ago, after they had been married for seven years.

At home with the countess at Mentmore

From Philip Howard
Mentmore

The Dowager Lady Rosebery

conducted sumptuous guided tours of photographers and reporters around the treasures of Mentmore Towers yesterday, with a charm and charriness as if in the manner born. It would evidently have been worth the Government's while making over the great mock English Renaissance wedding cake of a house in lieu of death duties, provided it could retain Lady Rosebery as official guide.

Welcoming her visitors in the dining room, with its walls covered with Genoese cut velvet of the early seventeenth century, she said: "It is jolly nice of you all to come. I had hoped that this house would go to the nation. And I do not understand why the Government could not have taken it over and sold a few bits of furniture to finance it."

"We won't talk about valuation, because that makes it rather horrid. But just one piece of the French furniture is valued at £300,000."

The contents of the house constitute one of the finest collections of French furniture in the world, taking no account of the Sévres porcelain, the Rembrandts and other paintings, the tapestries, the Limoges enamel and the rest. They are valued at many millions of pounds, and will be auctioned by Sotheby Parke-Bernet in a series of auctions at Mentmore in May, which will become one of the great house sales of the century.

Mentmore was built by Sir Joseph Paxton between 1851 and 1859 for Baron Meyer de Rothschild, whose daughter



Lady Rosebery seated on a Venetian chair from the Doge's palace, at Mentmore Towers yesterday.

Hannah was the mother of the late Earl of Rosebery. Baron Meyer was one of the master connoisseurs and collectors of the nineteenth century.

Lady Rosebery quoted him as asserting: "It is much cheaper to buy French eighteenth-century furniture than to go to Naples."

"What would happen to the house now? someone asked in awe." Lady Rosebery replied: "Oh, sink it. It could become a lunatic asylum. It could become a health resort, and then I could come and stay here."

A local reporter asked why it could not have become a cultural centre for the adjacent new town of Milton Keynes. Lady Rosebery replied briskly: "People who like the awful houses that they are building at Milton Keynes would not be interested in a place like this."

The pack surged around her into the grand hall to admire the Gobelin tapestries of the four seasons; the vast carpet from Versailles; the early Erard piano; and the Rubens fireplace, which has a reserve of £250,000 on it and for which the city of Antwerp has made repeated offers. Lady Rosebery explained: "We could not let it go, because what on earth would we put in its place?"

In Lord Rosebery's study she opened up the Augustus Rex cabinet, a secretary bookcase of 1755, made for Augustus, Elector of Saxony and King of Poland, known as Augustus the Strong. It is a rococo masterpiece of gilt and carving valued at more than £200,000.

One of Lady Rosebery's friends, ignorant of the asymmetry of rococo, once told her that she supposed it must be

worth it, provided she still had the missing pieces.

On the staircase Lady Rosebery remembered an anecdote about the Gainsborough of greyhounds courting a fox. In 1938 they had nowhere to hang it, and her husband accordingly offered it to a friend for the £1,500 he had paid for it, on the ground that sporting pictures were increasing in value. The friend refused the offer, saying: "But cruel sporting pictures have not appreciated."

A few years later Mellor offered £40,000 for it. Today it is valued at £250,000.

The tour lasted for two hours but only skimmed the surface of the beauties and wealth of Mentmore: the Marie Antoinette silks in the Du Barry room; the Drouais portrait of Madame de Pompadour; a marvellous woman who did a

tremendous lot for France, and I dare say, for the king"; the Boucher of Apollo and Cupid; the lavatories with plumbing as majestic as Niagara, and walls half-skinned to the ceiling with bound volumes of *The Gentleman's Magazine*.

Melancholy as well as mercenary sale-room excitement hangs over the dispersal of so rich a collection meant to be lived with, which was at the centre of Victorian political life and high society. Somebody asked whether Lady Rosebery could relax in such grand surroundings. "I have never been there," she said. How many servants did she need to run it? "I have seven, but I call them friends, not servants. They have been with me for up to 32 years. And they are coming with me to my new home in Aylesbury."

"They jumped in him, and held him a short blonde-haired b****. One sat on the other came up. The boy managed to top, but they put him back". The first another, ran across Enrico Sidoli, who f*** pool.

"They held of him, and he was struggling to show it. The girl said she picked out one of the police identity para

Derborah Smith, a Howe Street, Bethnal Green, told the inquest the seen two youths atta

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WEST EUROPE

European convention on terrorism signed by 17 states

From Charles Hargrove
Paris, Jan 27

The European Convention on the Repression of Terrorism was solemnly signed this morning in the new Palais de l'Europe in Strasbourg by the foreign ministers of 17 member countries of the Council of Europe.

Only Malta and Ireland refused to endorse the document. Four countries—France, Norway, Italy and Portugal—expressed reservations. France said it would not ratify the convention until the agreement on terrorism which is under preparation in the European Community was ready.

A French statement on the convention said any persecuted person had the right of asylum. Norway and Italy reserved the right to use article 13 which enables signatories to refuse extradition under certain conditions. Portugal said it would not extradite anyone acting for solely political motives or to a country where capital punishment still exists.

The reasons for the refusal of Malta to sign were not disclosed. Ireland's refusal is because of a constitutional difficulty.

The convention adopted by the Council of Ministers of the Council of Europe in November was described in the assembly yesterday by Mr Einar Agustsson, the Foreign Minister of Iceland, as "the maximum juridical instrument which could be achieved in present circumstances".

The convention expresses the pious wish that "effective measures be taken to ensure

that the authors of acts of terrorism do not escape prosecution and punishment", and it mentions extradition as a particularly effective means to that end.

In the debate in the assembly, several speakers argued out that the document was not sufficiently strong. It was deprived of any real force, they said, by the sovereignty and reservation clauses which enable member countries to refuse extradition if they regard the acts of terrorism concerned as political.

The assembly adopted a report by M Margue (Christian Social, Luxembourg) asking for the speedy implementation of the convention.

He criticized the lack of clarity in the definition of political crimes, in order to exclude all risks of a political refugee being handed over, he said, & was anxious for all member states to acknowledge the right of individual appeal to the European Commission on Human Rights, and the suspensive character of such appeals.

The French and Italian Communist members of the assembly voted against the report on the grounds that the convention did not seem to them a "real instrument for the repression of terrorism". The text was very confused and the Council of Ministers had failed to consult the assembly in drafting it.

In this connexion, M Margue stated in his report that the Council of Ministers of the Council of Europe had consulted the assembly only 80 times in 27 years, and mostly on minor matters.



Water from the Neckar river, swollen by heavy rains and thawing snow, flows through the streets of Heidelberg in West Germany.

EEC makes war on food prices

From David Cross
Brussels, Jan 27

Mr Finn Olav Gundelach, the recently-appointed European Commissioner for Agriculture, tonight fired the opening salvo in a new battle to hold down key EEC farm and food prices.

In a tough speech delivered at the opening of the "Green Week" in Berlin, he made it clear that farmers could no longer count on large annual price increases for their dairy produce. "We face a choice," he said. "We can either opt for price moderation or we can allow ourselves to be drawn into a series of tighter and tighter controls on milk production. For me there is no doubt that prudence over price increases is the best course."

Mr Gundelach's remedy for the growing milk surpluses in the Community tallies closely with that of the British Government and marks a radical change in Brussels thinking under the leadership of Mr Roy Jenkins, the new president of the European Commission.

Previous commissions argued that production cuts were the right solution.

Bitterly attacking the one million ton skimmed milk mountain and rising butter surpluses, Mr Gundelach said this state of affairs was bad for the Community because of

the high costs involved and a business that has no basis in the market place is a very risky business indeed."

Nevertheless price Moderation must be introduced and maintained over a reasonable period, he said. "We owe it to our farmers to avoid sudden changes in their working and living conditions. We must give our farmers the chance to switch to more viable forms of agricultural or other production."

This was the essence of the modified and strengthened agricultural structure policy the Community needed. Mr Gundelach said, in addition, it required strengthened regional policies designed to overcome geographical imbalances.

Other difficulties facing the common agricultural policy had resulted from the up-haul in the general economic situation, including low economic activity, unemployment, balance of payments difficulties and last but not least severe currency disruptions.

In this context the present system of "green currencies" (like the green pound) helped to avoid reductions in producer incomes or sharp rises in consumer prices. But while this protection was necessary in the short term "it is wrong to think that the mechanism can hold off forever the effects

of monetary changes, whether they flow from revaluations or devaluations".

This stricture is not likely to strike a sympathetic chord with Mr John Silkin, the British Minister for Agriculture, who is in Berlin for the annual farm trade fair. For several months he has been strenuously resisting any devaluation of the green pound because of its impact on food prices and the social contract.

Alarming himself firmly with Brussels thinking,

he argued, that the maintenance of the green currency system beyond its proper short-term role led to "growing budgetary tensions". If nothing was done the system would cost four times as much this year as it did in 1973.

Equally serious was the way in which the green currencies distorted trade between members. These distortions in turn tempted governments to add further distortions "as we have seen recently in the case of Britain and its big producers". He said in a reference to the new Whitehall subsidies which Brussels is strenuously contesting.

"By allowing the misuse of this monetary protection, therefore, the Community risks the break-up of our common farm market. This is something we must fight to prevent."

OVERSEAS

Rhodesia ruling party backs Smith plan for internal settlement

From Michael Kuipe
Salisbury, Jan 27

Mr Smith avoided a showdown by not going into the detail of the Government's plans on either the political negotiations or the race law reforms. Party sources said the mandate was given on the principle rather than the detail of the Government's plans.

An indication of the Government's intentions has been given by Mr Pieter van der Byl, the Minister of Foreign Affairs. He has said he believes all racially discriminatory legislation should be abolished, and that the Government should attempt to negotiate with Bishop Abel Muzorewa's African Nationalist faction and with the newly formed Zimbabwe United People's Organization (Zupo). Zupo is led by two chiefs who were until recently members of the Government.

So far at least, Bishop Muzorewa has insisted that he will not participate in any internal settlement, and has called for the "unconditional surrender" of the Rhodesian Front Government.

Zupo claims leadership of the country's Africans by virtue of the tribal system. It has indicated its willingness to negotiate and has called for the removal of racial discrimination, but is vague in its attitude to elections.

S African view of Western failure

From Nicholas Ashford
Cape Town, Jan 27

South Africa becomes involved in operations in Rhodesia obtaining the prior c Parliament. This is clear by Mr P. W. Botha, the Minister of Defence, interview with *The Times*.

During the interview, Botha warned nations that because they have towards South Africa could no longer receive African support for the event of an East African conflict. He could only country deciding neutral.

Mr Botha, who also the National Party is one of the most members of the CP, the guerrilla war said should not be seen to

"It is quite clear to evidence available that has decided military propaganda, psychosocial fare and other methods an attack on the southern Africa," he

Asked about becoming militarily Rhodesia, he replied will not take any operations within

What if Mr Smith

Appealed for help, would have to be merit and by Parliament

Mr Botha has right in criticizing failure to devise strategy to halt encroachments in Africa. In recent spe

he and Mr Vorster, Minister, have said South Africa stood could not expect military assistance.

The minister

Africa has assisted other Western nations number of occasions, the Berlin and Korean war. Last

become involved in the side of the anti-nationalist front against the left-wing

"We took certain

Angola which the know about and were not opposed

words they were s firming our actions before explanations.

The idea would then go before the OAU defence council also meeting here from February 5.

He said the force's main would be to prevent Rhodesian incursions into Mozambique and possibly Botswana and South African raids into southern Angola. Such protection would enable nationalist guerrillas to operate more easily from secure bases.

He did not specify whether the projected force would be permanently stationed in the five black African "front-line" states bordering Rhodesia.

He foresees an enlargement of the present arrangement under which Tanzanian forces are assisting their Mozambican counterparts.

Fake suicide of African not ruled out

From Our Correspondent
Johannesburg, Jan 27

The death in prison cells of two Africans came under official scrutiny today. Since March last year 14 blacks have died while being detained under security laws.

In Cape Town, an inquest on Luke Mazwembe, who died two hours after being put into a cell at Cape Town police headquarters last September, was told that his apparent suicide might have been faked.

Dr G. J. Knobel said he could not exclude the possibility that Mazwembe was killed first and then hanged to fake a suicide. The abrasions on his neck were compatible with both explanations.

Police Sergeant Carel Steenkamp said Mazwembe was found hanged from strips of a blanket which were tied to a window frame. A razor blade found in the cell might have been used to cut up the blanket.

Mazwembe was detained in a raid on the Guguletu African township and held for questioning about alleged incitements to commit urban terrorism.

In a second development, Mr James Kruger, the Minister of Police and Justice, said an investigation had been ordered into the circumstances in which a detainee's body was interfered with before an independent pathologist could conduct a post mortem examination.

Dr Jonathan Gluckman had been commissioned to carry out the examination by the family of Dr Nabo Nkosi, who was found hanged in a police cell at Leslie, west of Johannesburg, on January 9. He declined to do it when the body was found to have been cut already by a mortuary attendant policeman without a doctor being present.

"This is contrary to all recognized conduct in mortuaries and infinitely more so in cases of unnatural death."

"It was, therefore, impossible for me to carry out a thorough and complete examination. Any conclusion I might have drawn would have been based on features which may have been masked and would, therefore, be unreliable."

A party spokesman denied that last week's public warning by the party to members on "Trotskyite infiltration" attempts had prejudiced the dissidents' case. The expulsion order confined itself to acts of internal party indiscipline.

Since November Dr Soares has given short shrift to dissidents, arguing that the problems of the Government must not be aggravated by disputes inside his party.

Call for pan-African force

Lusaka, Jan 27.—The Secretary General of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) called today for the creation of a Pan African defence force to counter "aggression" by the white minority government of southern Africa.

The minister

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Advance south of Syrian troops worries Israelis

From Moise Brilliant
Tel Aviv, Jan 27

Officials responsible for foreign relations and security convened suddenly here today after receipt of a message from Washington regarding the advance of Syrian forces in Lebanon closer to the Israel border.

The meeting in the Prime Minister's office was also attended by the ministers of foreign affairs and defence and by the Chief of Staff.

Officials said that Washington was offering its good offices concerning Israel's demand that the Syrians return to positions they held before their advance this week to the area of Nabatiyeh, nine miles from Israel's north-eastern border. But they declined to say whether the message from Washington represented a break in the situation.

Israel's position is that the Syrian advance broke the status quo and was not so much a military threat to Israel but a threat to peace and stability.

According to information reaching here, a Syrian infantry battalion of the Arab peacekeeping force reached the Chamber of Deputies, that Israel might use the deployment of the peace force in the south as a reason for crossing into Lebanon.

Richard per tour restart in Botswana

Gaborone, Jan 27

Richard, the British resuming efforts to peaceful Rhodesian arrived here tonight with President Sere

Mr Richard, an Johannesburg, said design of a somatic

Britain and the UK are now examining the issue in the light of refusal of the latest

He said the ends of the African "frontline" of the Patriotic Front Joshua Nkomo and Mugabe had comp

Mr Richard said it was yesterday he met Mr Nkomo, Mr President Kaunda of Zambia, William Etiki Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity in Lusaka at the weekend. He hopes to return to the middle of next month.

British sources seek fresh ideas. There have been indications that States could be brought again as a direct result of negotiations—Reuters

Afflicted jog conscience of Rome

From Our Own Correspondent

Rome, Jan 27

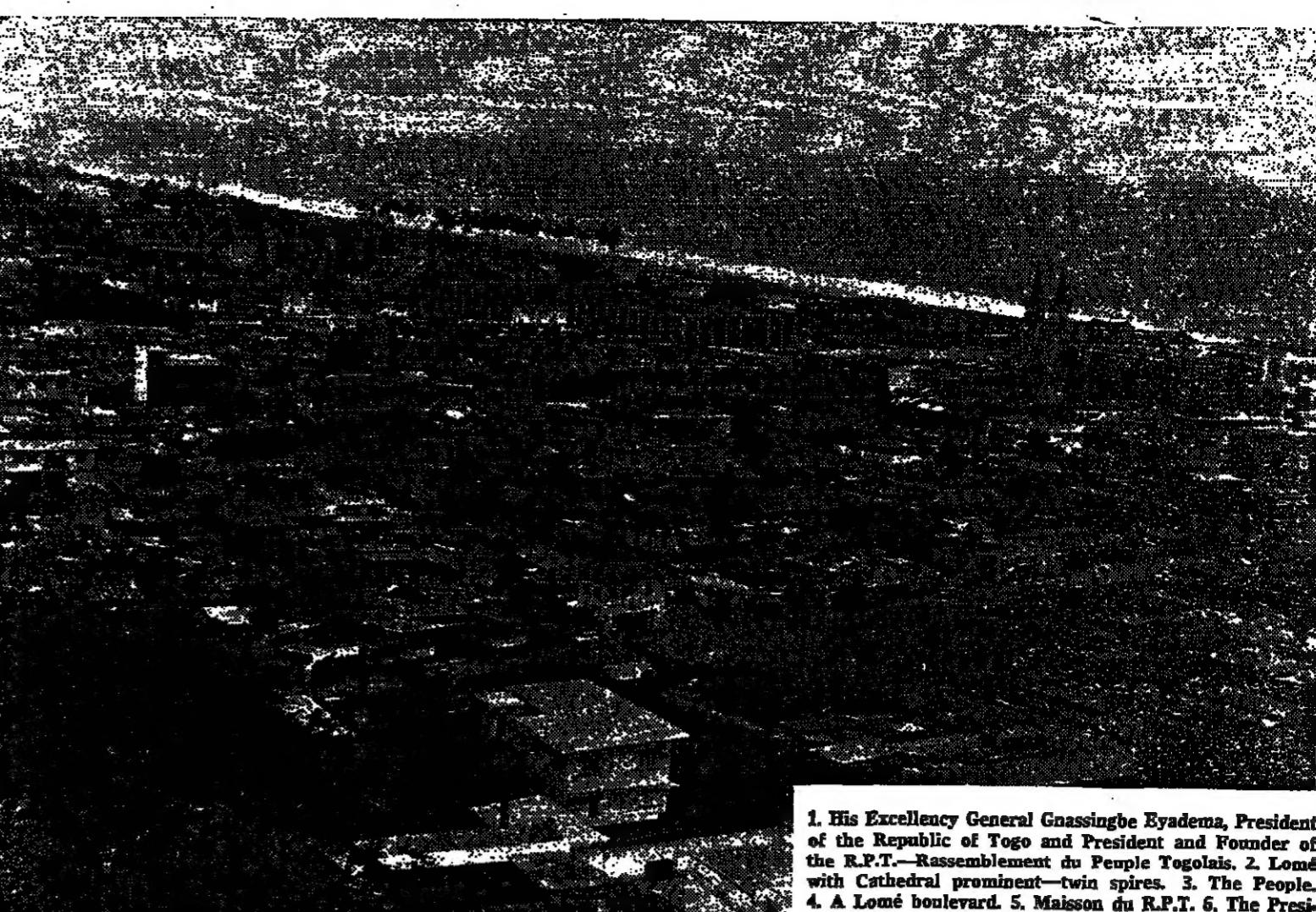
The centre of Rome was blocked today by the blind and deaf and dumb who mounted a "March of Grief" on the Prime Minister's offices to express solidarity towards cripples threatened with loss of their pensions under a new law.

Leaders of the opposition, for the most part, have adopted a wait and see attitude over the ban on demonstrations and other measures announced by the Government, and a spokesman for the Popular Socialist Party compromised the views of many others when he told me: "The measures are valid if they help to create the conditions for democratic progress. If they help to create an atmosphere of calm. But it is worth putting the question: 'Will this be enough?'"

ing party
plan
settlement

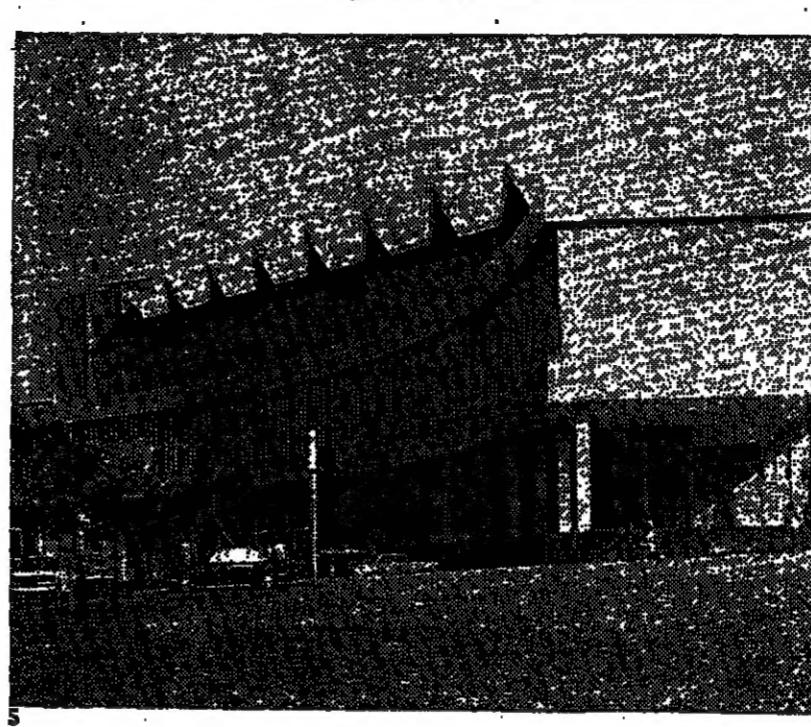


Call for
pan-African
force



ADVERTISEMENT

1. His Excellency General Gnassingbe Eyadema, President of the Republic of Togo and President and Founder of the R.P.T.—Rassemblement du Peuple Togolais. 2. Lomé with Cathedral prominent—twin spires. 3. The People. 4. A Lomé boulevard. 5. Maison du R.P.T. 6. The President resting during a walk.



Togo celebrates ten years of progress

January 13th, 1977, the day of Togo joyfully and solemnly celebrated the anniversary of the army's rise of power and the ascent of General EYADEMA's administration. We understand the importance of the significance which attaches to this event. It is recalled that it like Cameroon, has faced colonization by both France and the French. In these periods, the French powers made every effort to convert our country's into one that could be developing the production of cheap commercial for industry, as well as the vital sectors of society, at the expense of the colonial crops. No process worthy of the name existed in Togo. In addition, the country's rich soil to bear specialist crops and oil processing (coffee, cotton, copra), which were reported. The peasants' primitive tools to till their land were not encouraged to modern farming methods to help them to become more in growing their tiny holdings, so as impossible to introduce techniques in a manner.

The importance of roads development of the no roads existed. The were built out of necessity were difficult to go in the rainy season. The "policy was to more roads make routes to serve the regions in materials were being made it easier to transportable products to areas. We, for instance, had the "rain line," "iron line" depending on purpose for which they tended. These roads led at the main towns generating further into us so that the inhabitants could be cut off. One of these roads in helped to improve the people who lived in us. Field of health, it was policy to restrict efforts own so that medical aid was available to the public. They were called upon to work in the administrative sector. In other words, it was a story policy which did to counteract the enemies by which our were affected.

cation, the main aim of those who were to the administration and to serve the colonial and its daily routine. It was not to produce any enlightenment in minds who could take part in the development of their nation, but to in the absolute minimum knowledge to ensure would be docile under its authority and could administration properly. It was directed that on certain individuals would write way of living away from their traditional type. Many fac-

tors contributed towards this situation that four years later there were the inadequacy of the statistical system and technical services and the uneven nature of the administrative network.

When independence came, these encouraging obviously made it impossible to implement any policy of growth. Moreover, the colonial administration had systematically destroyed the traditional administration and had made no attempt to retain anything that could be salvaged.

Very progress that had been made, there is still long way to go before good administration can finally be achieved.

Not everything was bad under colonial rule, of course; to its credit could be placed the emergence of certain individuals who would later make up the vital sectors of society, as well as the opening out of our people to the outside world and the awakening of a national awareness. Nevertheless, by relentlessly pursuing its logic-minimizing local peoples in a state of servitude, ignorance and dependence—colonialism was at the same time a force of death warrant. The consequence was to be our country's acquisition of its independence in the 1960s.

Before independence, public opinion in our country was divided among several political opinions. Despite the prevailing methods that they advocated, all had fought to shake off the colonial yoke. None of them, however, had been able to draw up plans that could meet the situation during the period following independence. It seemed that they believed that all the evils afflicting the country would automatically be eliminated once independence had been achieved. The parties did not understand that independence is only means to an end, an essential milestone, but not more than a milestone on the road to the greater good of economic independence.

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The achievement of independence was accompanied by a state of euphoria, but the problems were so complex that inter-party rivalries led to another round of conflict. There was little improvement in the economic situation, for no coherent efforts were adopted to lead the country out of its state of underdevelopment. There were no plans to reform the administrative structure inherited from colonial days. The situation inevitably led to an impasse, characterized by victimization, paying off of old scores and arbitrary decisions reminiscent of the unhappy colonial period.

Then came the independence. The people were ready to destroy what they had been welcomed with such fervour. It was at this point that the army, viewing the situation as intolerable, intervened in public affairs for the first time. To the general surprise, however, it decided to hand power back to the civilians.

The reason was that the Togolese army had never had any political aspirations; its intention had always been to act as an arbitrator between the political parties in any serious conflict.

A new team was therefore installed. Strangely enough, the new leaders learned nothing from the past. They failed to tackle the country's economic problems, administrative reform, infrastructure, modernization of agriculture or the use of arable land.

On the contrary, political parties still supported the intentions more than plans that might help the people to feed itself and to live better. Political

rivalry was exacerbated towards this point that four years later the country was almost at the point of civil war. The army—which remained the only organized force, one that was more concerned with the national interest than with partisan activities—was forced to step into the political arena, taking over power on January 13, 1967, with a view to setting national policy on a better course.

Once in power, the government presided over by General EYADEMA set about solving the vital problems that had arisen as a brake upon the country's normal progress. One of its first decisions was to dissolve all the political parties, which were no more than the seat of discord and division. Compared with previous years, there was a marked improvement in our budget, which had never been an expansionist budget and which, moreover, produced a deficit each year, offset by subsidies against incoming capital. The development of agriculture should lead to the creation of agricultural/industrial units that provide work for some of the unemployed in the rural areas. The promotion of young people for its supply of essential food.

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Peace has returned and citizens can go about their occupations freely. The army, formerly exploited and deliberately pitted against the people by the colonialists, has now become a friend and eventually became an integral part of society, to the point at which the distinction between civilians and the military has now become blurred.

A dynamic policy of open-mindedness towards and cooperation with any state that respects our principles has been adopted, and a liberal code has been formulated to encourage foreign investors provided that they do not despoil our country.

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full use of our land assets. Today only about 10 per cent of our arable land is cultivated, and over the next few years this percentage will gradually increase.

While the production of crops that can be exported for industrial use is to expand, the people are being encouraged to increase their output of food grains so that our country will not be dependent upon foreign sources for its supply of essential foods.

The development of agriculture should lead to the creation of agricultural/industrial units that provide work for some of the unemployed in the rural areas. The promotion of young people for its supply of essential food.

In 1972 Togo embarked upon a policy of regional cooperation with its neighbour to the east, Nigeria. This led to the signature of a treaty in May 1975, setting up a community of the states of West Africa, and in November 1976 to the signature of protocols in Lomé making the community operational. The C.E.D.E.A.O. is to integrate the economies of the sub-region, broadening the economic horizons of its member states, harmonizing national development policies and promoting the movement of goods and persons. So doing, we have reached an important stage in the life of the towns, particularly the capital, are creating social problems.

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OVERSEAS

Japanese prosecutors link name of Mr Nixon with Lockheed as Tanaka trial opens

From Peter Hazelhurst
Tokyo, Jan 27

In a startling statement, Japanese prosecutors implicated ex-President Nixon in the Lockheed bribery scandal today after Mr Kakuei Tanaka, the former Prime Minister of Japan, went on trial in Tokyo on charges that he received \$1m to secure a lucrative sales contract for the American aircraft manufacturer.

Wiping away tears, Mr Tanaka, aged 58, faced a panel of three judges in the crowded courtroom. In a faltering voice, he denied all the charges.

Mr Tanaka and four other defendants were charged with bribery, perjury and violating Japan's foreign exchange regulations. The charges carry a maximum sentence of seven and a half years in prison. The other accused are alleged to have received bribes through the Matsushita Corporation, Lockheed's former sales agents, to Mr Tanaka to secure a sales contract for 21 TriStar airplanes in 1972.

They are Toshio Enomoto, Mr Tanaka's former secretary, Hiro Hiyama, former chairman of Marubeni, Toshiro Kubo, and Hiroshi Itoh, both former Marubeni executives. They also deny all the charges.

In their opening address the four prosecutors formally linked President Nixon's name with the scandal. The prosecution alleges that Mr Hiyama

visited Mr Tanaka at his official residence in August, 1972, to suggest that Lockheed might pass on a film bribe to obtain a TriStar sales contract with All Nippon Airways. Shortly afterwards, Mr Tanaka travelled to Hawaii to talk with Mr Nixon and Dr Kissinger (the former Secretary of State).

After his return, it was said, Mr Tanaka met one of his closest friends, Mr Kenji Osano, the principal shareholder in All Nippon Airways.

The prosecution statement claimed that he told Mr Osano: "Mr Nixon said if Japan imports aircraft from the United States in future he will be very grateful if Lockheed aircraft are purchased." Mr Osano later met the airline's vice-president and suggested he be selected for the airline's next fleet. "This was relayed to the president of the airline and in October it was decided to purchase the Lockheed Tri-

Star." The state claimed that after sounding out the Prime Minister, Mr Hiyama approached Lockheed's representative in Tokyo, Mr A. C. Kotchian, and asked the company to put up a bribe of \$1m. Mr Kotchian accepted the suggestion, but stipulated that the money be paid in four instalments because the company was suffering financial losses.

Later, Mr Tanaka's secretary telephoned Marubeni executives to inquire about payments. "Lockheed was contacted and agreed to pay through their subsidiary in Switzerland."

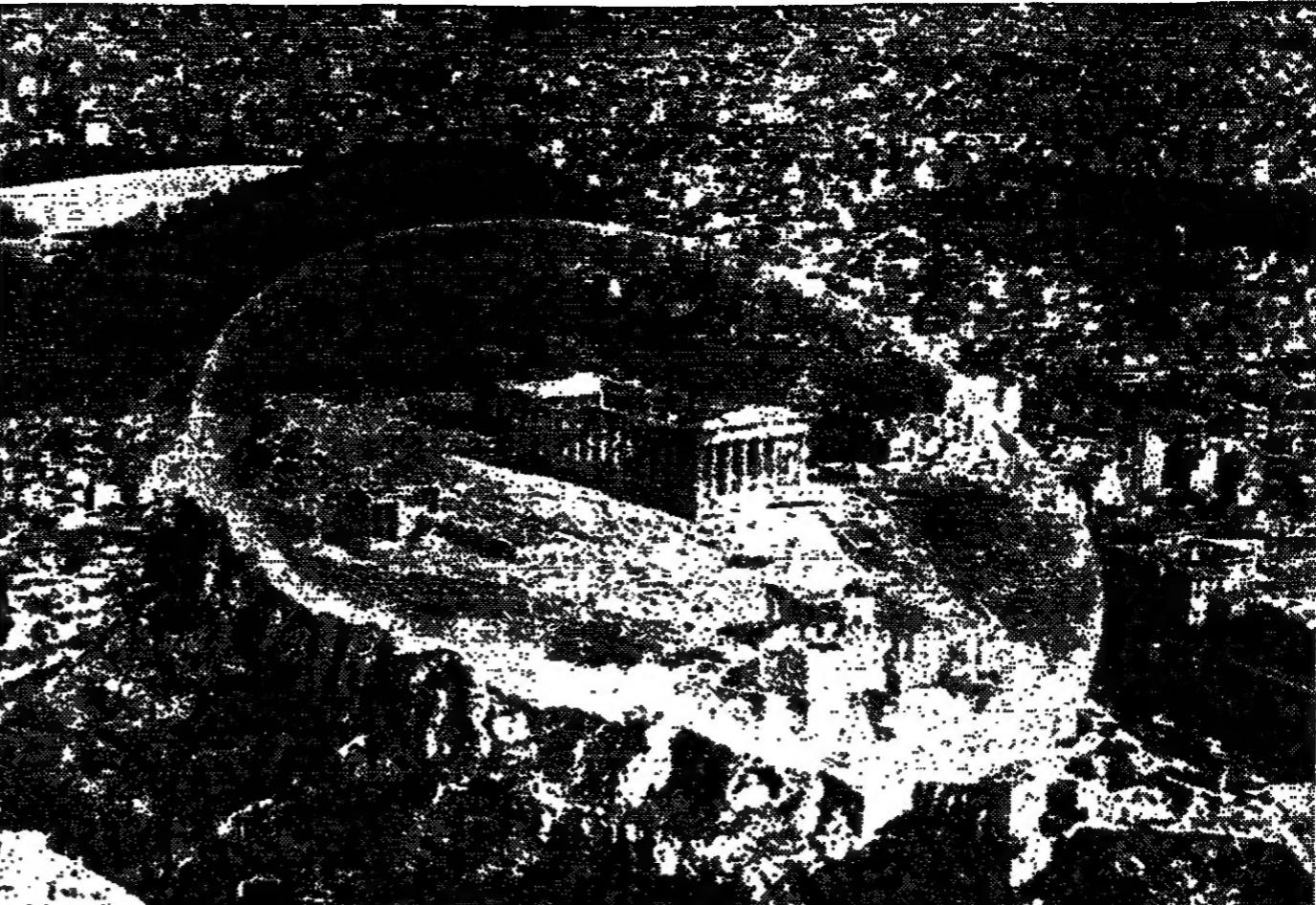
Hundreds of curious Japanese milled around the court this morning. Seats in the public gallery were assigned by lottery. Mr Tanaka, who is on bail, arrived wearing a dark western suit. He appeared composed but later broke down as he recalled the shock of his arrest last July. "The prosecutors came to my home without warning and arrested me. It was a terrible shock."

He was the victim of an irresponsible campaign by the mass media, Mr Tanaka said, during which he and Nixon had discussed the Lockheed sales campaign. "This is sheer nonsense. At no time did the subject of TriStar crop up during my talks with Mr Nixon."

Dr Kissinger and Mr Rogers (Mr William Rogers, Dr Kissinger's predecessor as Secretary of State) were present. One has only to look at official records available in the foreign office, I declare categorically that this is incorrect and for the sake of the honour of Japan and the United States I hope this will be cleared up quickly."

He had never received money during his political career "and I never dispensed favours," Mr Tanaka added.

The trial resumes on February 22.



An artist's impression of how the Acropolis would look under the plastic hood which has been suggested as one way of saving the building from air pollution.

Tory pledge on defence to détente sceptics

From Fred Emery
Washington, Jan 27

An assurance that a future British government under Mrs Thatcher would spend more on defence, "to retrieve the inadequate position" brought about by Labour's £8,000m cuts in planned expenditure, was given here today by Mr Geoffrey Pattie, secretary of the Conservative Party's defence committee.

Mr Pattie, who is MP for Chesham and Walton, was speaking at the opening luncheon of a conference predominantly attended by sceptics about defence.

Together with Dr Ray Cline, former deputy director of the Central Intelligence Agency, and Mr John Powers, president of the Americans Plasterers and Cement Masons' Union, Mr Pattie urged vigilance in the face of the intentions expressed by the "Soviet gerontocracy". He was all for "jaw jaw" with the Russians, but said that the West should fight any tendency to snatch any trifles thrown to it by the Soviet Union.

To the Russians, he went on, the relationship between the Soviet Union and détente was the same as the relationship between "the bulying interrogator with his lights and his denial of sleep, and the soft-voiced apologist who proffers cigarettes. Both interrogators are after a breakdown..."

Mr Pattie, an advocate of Anglo-French nuclear cooperation, also hinted today that the two countries might challenge the strategic balance between the superpowers.

Commenting on the strategic arms limitation negotiations, he said the Soviet-American debate about the very accurate submarine cruise missiles "might be difficult to resolve".

Then he added:

"If Britain and France proceed with their own Cruise missile development, then before too long the cosy duopoly of the superpowers could be challenged. But that is another story."

Mr Pattie's suggestion appears to be the first time that any politician has suggested in public in the United States that Britain and France might also develop these missiles.

He had other warnings. The trend in military disparities favouring the Soviet Union could, he believed, lead to a Soviet blockade on Britain's oil and fish supplies which Britain, with a depleted navy, would be unable to prevent.

"We would then have the choice of hoping that the United States would help us, merely putting at risk its own cities if there was a nuclear exchange, or we could give in to Soviet demands. I am under no illusions that there would be plenty of support for the latter course," he said.

Hare Krishna is banned in Argentina

From Our Correspondent
Buenos Aires, Jan 27

Argentina's military Government has banned oriental religious sects from proselytizing in the country. A decree declared their activities anti-national and contrary to the principles and institutions of the state.

Police yesterday shut down the Buenos Aires headquarters of the Hare Krishna movement, detaining five of its members. The Divine Light mission of the 18-year-old Guru Maharaj Ji was also affected.

The decree said that while the Argentine Constitution guaranteed religious freedom, religious ideas could not violate national morals and customs.

Concorde finds many New York allies

From Peter Strafford
New York, Jan 27

The Concorde received an unusual boost in New York today when the city's biggest unions and several important groups of business men made public statements in support of its being given landing rights at Kennedy Airport.

The statements were read out at a press conference called by the Association for a Better New York, a business group. The theme which ran through all of them was that allowing Concorde to land would bring economic benefits to New York which the city could not afford to turn aside.

One telegram from the Central Labor Council, representing 1,200,000 members, was addressed to the port authority of New York and New Jersey, which operates Kennedy, and to Mr Hugh Carey, the Governor of New York State. It called for Concorde to be allowed to land "as a step forward in air transportation, as a stimulus to economic growth, increasing jobs and employment".

Another was a letter from Mr George Champion, the chairman of the board of the New York Chamber of Commerce and Industry, to Mr Carey. "We feel very strongly that it would be very much to the interest of New York City to allow the Concorde to use Kennedy Airport for a period of three to four months on a trial basis at least," he wrote.

New York City is the principal trading centre with Europe in general and London in particular and it is, in our opinion, highly important that we should nurture this close association in every way possible."

This public statement of support for Concorde was timed to come just before a meeting of the port authority on February 10, when it is due to make a

Egypt to ask Russians to reschedule arms debts

From Robert Fisk
Cairo, Jan 27

The Egyptian Government is expected to make a further attempt to persuade the Russians to reschedule Egypt's debt repayments when a Soviet trade delegation arrives in Cairo tomorrow. The group are officially here to sign a trade protocol for 1977 but officials in the Economic Ministry in Cairo will try to convince the Russians that if the loans are not extended — thus easing Egypt's crippling economic burden — then there is little chance that Egyptian-Soviet relations can improve in the near future.

The Soviet mission will arrive at a time when Egyptian newspapers are daily attacking Russia's refusal to postpone repayment of the estimated £3,500m which Egypt spent on Soviet arms over the past six

years. Russia is also being accused in the semi-official press of helping to foment the allegedly communist-inspired food riots in Egypt last week in which 73 people died.

Members of the Egyptian parliament have meanwhile been adding to the anti-Soviet barrage by claiming that the Russians grossly overcharged Egypt for the arms which were needed to fight in two Middle East wars. One Assembly member said that the Soviet Union sold large quantities of rocket-propelled grenades to Egypt for £2,500 each when the true cost was only £400.

President Tito's visit to Egypt, which was postponed last week after the death in an air crash of the Yugoslav Prime Minister, is now to take place in the middle of February, according to official sources.

Text of Denktash letter to Archbishop

The meeting between Archbishop Makarios and Mr Denktash in Nicosia yesterday was arranged at the initiative of the Turkish leader. Here is the text of the letter he sent to the Archbishop on January 9. Your Beatitude,

In your interview with Mr Robert Fisk of the London Times, you are reported to have said that "with a view to helping a solution to the problem", you have accepted "under certain conditions, a federal solution" adding that "any kind of federation, however, should safeguard the unity of the state". Further,

you seem to believe that "freedom of movement, freedom of settlement and the right to property are basic prerequisites to the acceptance of a separate Turkish Cypriot administration".

This is to put on record that I am ready to meet you at the

Cash problems force airline to halt flights.

From Our Correspondent
Nairobi, Jan 27

East African Airways, which is jointly owned by the Governments of Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania, announced tonight that it had been forced temporarily to suspend some of its services. This is the latest and most serious effect of the airline's cash flow problems.

The suspension results from East African Airways' inability to pay for further fuel supplies to East Africa. An official statement said it had been paying in advance for fuel for some time now, but at midday yesterday there were no funds available.

The immediate effect of the suspension will be felt on the international routes operated by the airline; to and from London and other European destinations and to and from Karachi and Bombay, as well as on services within Africa.

each other as "enemies". A bicultural political show in which the actors will be these "enemies" does not seem to be a just and fair inheritance which we can leave to our own people.

Any positive step which can be taken in this direction will, I am sure, contribute to a peaceful settlement of the Cyprus problem and consequently to the alleviation of much of the hardships which are at present being suffered by members of both communities, the alleviation of which is contingent upon a political settlement.

I hope you will agree that a meeting between us will be useful for Cyprus in which case I shall be at your disposal for an early meeting at Ledra Palace Hotel.

Saif R. Denktash
President

Amnesty support for prison hunger strikers

By Edward Mortimer

Support for Arab political prisoners who have been on hunger strike for seven weeks in Israeli prisons was expressed yesterday in a telegram from Amnesty International to the Israeli Attorney-General. Claiming that one prisoner had already died as result of the hunger strike, the organization urged him "to do everything possible to prevent further deaths by initiating immediate improvements in prison conditions".

The hunger strike, which began at Ashkelon prison on December 10, was officially stated to have ended on January 19, but Amnesty has received reports that it is continuing despite the dispersal of the strikers to different prisons.

The International Committee of the Red Cross said earlier this month that its delegates had "observed some improvement in detention conditions" in Israeli prisons, though overcrowding was still a problem.

Writer rejects offer of asylum

Prague, Jan 27.—Pavel Kohout, the Czechoslovak playwright, a prominent supporter of the Charter 77 human rights manifesto, today rejected any offer of political asylum in Austria.

In a letter to Western correspondents in Prague, Mr Kohout said he respected the "proof of human solidarity" in such an offer but had no intention of leaving his country.

Speculation that human rights campaigners might be deported was prompted by a meeting in Vienna on Tuesday between the Czechoslovak Ambassador and the Austrian Foreign Minister. They discussed whether Austria would grant asylum to Charter 77 supporters.

"I appeal to my Government to deal with me and the other charter signatories by political means," Mr Kohout said. He appealed to all governments and political parties in East and West who have an interest in human rights to offer their mediation in the dispute. He said he had not been approached about a possible emigration to Austria or anywhere else.

Meanwhile, the Prague press continued its campaign against the signatories of the charter, claiming they were no more than "the small dog obediently listening to his master's voice from the gramophone tube".

Referring to Western criticism of the arrests and harassment of the party newspaper, Mr Kohout said: "The concentrated multimillionaire capitalist press is readily broadcasting their barking. All right, we have taken account of that and will act accordingly. They [the signatories and other dissidents] have had eight years to make up their minds. But the decision will be ours."

After a similar radio broadcast last night, the youth daily *Mladá Fronta* said the human rights activists should emigrate to Austria. It added mockingly that "Austria truly takes touching care of the charter's authors".

Czechoslovak television late last night paraded three workers who emotionally demanded that the regime's critics accept the Austrian offer. "It would be a shame if they did not make use of the offer and waited until we chase them out", one said, adding that they should take

Mr Trudeau rules out independence Quebec

From John Best
Ottawa, Jan 27

Mr Trudeau has accented Réne Lévesque, the PQ Quebec, of making a statement about independence and emphatically declared Quebec is not going rate from the Canadian creation.

The Prime Minister reacted last night at a conference to Mr Lévesque's statement on Tuesday. Economic Club of Canada that Quebec's independence is "inevitable". Mr refused to acknowledge Canada is facing a crisis.

He said that the speech, designed to American financiers' investment in Quebec remain safe despite the formation of a separatist movement last year, astonished him.

"He went there, he the province's need for administration, he was elected for, he pretended that he elected to bring independence, well, that He himself did not election on that."

During the campaign up to the electoral his Parti Québécois, que scarcely mentioned party's goal of separation, campaigned instead issues of good government, particularly attacking Liberal Administration and mismanagement.

Mr Trudeau said

Americans should

about developments.

The should go on in Quebec and it

because separation is to take place," he repeated that what que had said in New

False."

The Prime Minister's confidence in independence and autonomy of Canada going to happen by all Canadians, immigrants and opponents are suggesting Trudeau should be more vigorously to lengths from the separation.

Mr Trudeau will chance to test the popularity in Quebec, makes a three-day

Some time in the weeks, the Prime Minister by elections to vacate House of

Prince Edward Island.

The by-election being held along with a "mini-referendum" separation issue.

the Ethiopian Union (EDU), who have been challenging the government troops in the north.

Informants report that EDU captured the border town of Humera earlier this month.

The Government faced with increased activity in the province of Eritrea, where socialist forces have been deployed by large numbers of men sent to the front.

The EDU also has

tury wing but it is noticeable for its activities in urban areas.

Students at Addis Ababa University, which for over two years September, 1974, can strike today over ostensibly an internal matter but have wider implications.

The EDU draws support from non-Maoist white-collar workers who seem to back it's attempts to remove the Marxist government.

The EDU also has

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The EDU also has

SPORT

Ice Skating

A bronze for Cousins with glitter to come

From John Hennessy

Helsinki, Jan 27

Ronan Cousins, at 19, won the bronze medal in the European skating championships here today, the first, and only, gliding skating medal of his career that he can wear. The gold medal went to Jan Hoffmann, of East Germany, and the silver to Vladimir Kovalev, of the Soviet Union, as had been clearly foreshadowed by the first two elements of the competition.

Cousins lay fourth before tonight's free skating, but he easily overhauled Peeter Laikepuu of Estonia for third place. This was not the best of Cousins, but his is an artistry that almost bears comparison with that of John Curry—and praise can go no higher. In technical merit he had done enough to supplant Leskinen in the third place, but the difference between the two in presentation was as wide as the neighbouring frozen Baltic, room enough indeed for Yuri Gulyanikov, also of the Soviet Union, to sneak into fourth.

In technical achievement Hoffmann was outstanding, with four triple jumps. Cousins, on the other hand, settled for only one. He had an uneventful warm-up, and brought off his triple toe salchow and reduced his triple sitz to double because of the uncertain take-off; he decided to play it safe. No doubt he felt the lack of a trainer at his side, Gladys Hogg being confined to Britain because of a family illness. A difficult third place right before the world championships in Tokyo in March. There was, however, a harmony in Cousins's performance that was lacking elsewhere, and the power of his spins also deserved admiration.

The leading Russian pair, Irina Molchanova and Andrei Mischenko, retained their position at the head of the ice dancers at the end of the compulsory. One would be tempted to add that, barring accidents, they are sure to take the title vacated by their compatriots, the Gulyanikovs, who were the last to compete on Saturday night.

Kristina Repcovy and Andras Sallay, of Hungary, in second, followed by the second Russian pair, Natalia Linichuk and Genadii Karpovskiy, and the British champion, Jane Thompson and Neil Marshall. I leave readers to draw their own conclusions from the fact that the two judges who place the leaders second (to their own countrymen) are those from Hungary and Great Britain (Roy Mason).

Andreas Ahola, the ice rink seems to be of little account. Miss Molchanova came a purer on the third sequence of their march, to the music of Bizet's Carmen, and for a few moments skated on the back outside edge, not of her right foot, but of her left, both feet pointing in. It seemed to make no difference. Mrs Ahola-Demova, who happens to come from the Soviet Union, marked her and her partner 5.9 for technical merit and 5.7 for presentation.



The champion plays peek-a-boo: The Hoffmann technique in the process of revealing itself as Europe's best.

Results at Helsinki

	MEN (1)	J. Hoffmann (E Germany)	186.28 (151.5)
	R. Cousins (Estonia)	186.22 (151.5)	
	P. Laikepuu (Estonia)	186.18 (151.5)	
	S. Sallay (Hungary)	186.15 (151.5)	
	A. Molchanova (Russia)	186.12 (151.5)	
	N. Thompson (Great Britain)	186.08 (151.5)	
	N. Marshall (Great Britain)	186.05 (151.5)	
	I. Repcovy (Hungary)	186.02 (151.5)	
	D. Ahola (Finland)	185.82 (151.5)	
	J. Kovalev (Soviet Union)	185.78 (151.5)	
	G. Karpovskiy (Russia)	185.75 (151.5)	
	J. Leskinen (Finland)	185.72 (151.5)	
	J. Curry (Great Britain)	185.68 (151.5)	
	V. Kovalev (Soviet Union)	185.65 (151.5)	
	J. Gulyanikov (Soviet Union)	185.62 (151.5)	
	J. Thompson (Great Britain)	185.58 (151.5)	
	J. Davies (Great Britain)	185.55 (151.5)	
	J. Evans (Great Britain)	185.52 (151.5)	
	J. Williams (Great Britain)	185.50 (151.5)	
	J. McNaughton (Great Britain)	185.48 (151.5)	
	J. Williams (Great Britain)	185.45 (151.5)	
	J. Williams (Great Britain)	185.42 (151.5)	
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	J. Williams (Great Britain)	185.18 (151.5)	
	J. Williams (Great Britain)	185.15 (151.5)	
	J. Williams (Great Britain)	185.12 (151.5)	
	J. Williams (Great Britain)	185.09 (151.5)	
	J. Williams (Great Britain)	185.06 (151.5)	
	J. Williams (Great Britain)	185.03 (151.5)	
	J. Williams (Great Britain)	185.00 (151.5)	
	J. Williams (Great Britain)	184.97 (151.5)	
	J. Williams (Great Britain)	184.94 (151.5)	
	J. Williams (Great Britain)	184.91 (151.5)	
	J. Williams (Great Britain)	184.88 (151.5)	
	J. Williams (Great Britain)	184.85 (151.5)	
	J. Williams (Great Britain)	184.82 (151.5)	
	J. Williams (Great Britain)	184.79 (151.5)	
	J. Williams (Great Britain)	184.76 (151.5)	
	J. Williams (Great Britain)	184.73 (151.5)	
	J. Williams (Great Britain)	184.70 (151.5)	
	J. Williams (Great Britain)	184.67 (151.5)	
	J. Williams (Great Britain)	184.64 (151.5)	
	J. Williams (Great Britain)	184.61 (151.5)	
	J. Williams (Great Britain)	184.58 (151.5)	
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	J. Williams (Great Britain)	184.52 (151.5)	
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	J. Williams (Great Britain)	184.13 (151.5)	
	J. Williams (Great Britain)	184.10 (151.5)	
	J. Williams (Great Britain)	184.07 (151.5)	
	J. Williams (Great Britain)	184.04 (151.5)	
	J. Williams (Great Britain)	184.01 (151.5)	
	J. Williams (Great Britain)	183.98 (151.5)	
	J. Williams (Great Britain)	183.95 (151.5)	
	J. Williams (Great Britain)	183.92 (151.5)	
	J. Williams (Great Britain)	183.89 (151.5)	
	J. Williams (Great Britain)	183.86 (151.5)	
	J. Williams (Great Britain)	183.83 (151.5)	
	J. Williams (Great Britain)	183.80 (151.5)	
	J. Williams (Great Britain)	183.77 (151.5)	
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	J. Williams (Great Britain)	182.93 (151.5)	
	J. Williams (Great Britain)	182.90 (151.5)	
	J. Williams (Great Britain)	182.87 (151.5)	
	J. Williams (Great Britain)	182.84 (151.5)	
	J. Williams (Great Britain)	182.81 (151.5)	
	J. Williams (Great Britain)	182.78 (151.5)	
	J. Williams (Great Britain)	182.75 (151.5)	
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	J. Williams (Great Britain)	181.73 (151.5)	
	J. Williams (Great Britain)	181.70 (151.5)	
	J. Williams (Great Britain)	181.67 (151.5)	
	J. Williams (Great Britain)	181.64 (151.5)	
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	J. Williams (Great Britain)	180.77 (151.5)	
	J. Williams (Great		

The majestic display that is going to make 'Majesty' a best-seller

To produce a well documented, handsomely bound, weighty and yet readable biography of the Queen in January 1977, Jubilee year, is to lay oneself open to accusations of the most blatant commercial calculation. The attack is understandable, but it would be grossly unfair to accuse Robert Lacey of calculation alone. What is happening to *Majesty*—100,000 copies already printed, Book of the Month Club choice in America, sold across Europe—is more a matter of luck and frantic promotion than original cunning intent.

During the entire first year of his research, Robert Lacey never realized that 1977 was Jubilee year. And British publishers, confused by the vast selection of royal biographies on offer (30 books are due to appear this year) only became enthusiastic about *Majesty* last summer, after the book was completed.

It would, however, also be wrong to say that Robert Lacey decided to write a book about the Queen—somewhat unlikely choice for a young *Sunday Times Magazine* writer and editor—for pure historical interest and her merits as a subject alone. After two reasonably-selling Elizabethan biographies, Robert, Earl of Essex and Sir Walter Raleigh, Lacey was casting about for a new topic three years ago, and mildly lamenting the fact that his books did not seem to bring in quite the rewards of Antonia Fraser's *Mary Queen of Scots*, when the late Tony Godwin, his editor and a close friend, said to him: "You have to make a creative leap in biography writing. Think of a subject more like a product—something everyone must have." Robert Lacey's wife, Sandi, who as a younger sister has often identified herself with Princess Margaret, suggested the Queen's sister, Tony Godwin said: "In that case—why not the Queen?"

An advance equalizing two years' salary in The *Sunday Times* freed Lacey from office ties and gave Tony Godwin and Harcourt Brace and Jovanovich the world rights to the proposed book. Lacey embarked immediately on an intensive programme of reading—he admits that though a history student at Cambridge (and a would-be but failed history don) his knowledge of English history stopped at 1918.

He waited a year before announcing to the Palace what he was doing, largely out of terror that they would say no to anything he asked. The Queen never gives interviews. She made no exception for Lacey. But unofficial approval was clearly granted, and other members of the Royal Family—whom Lacey is under oath not to name—did talk to him, as did past



Prime Ministers, secretaries, Palace staff and friends.

The result is an extremely fluent book, but it is more the description of an institution—the monarchy—than a portrait of a person. Robert Lacey conveys his fascination with contemporary history-cum-journalism only too strongly: he became so engrossed in the period before the Queen's coronation that 60,000 words on the Abdication had to be cut as irrelevant. His reluctance to come back to the Queen herself is very apparent. His instinct was right: *Majesty* flags wherever the Queen appears. Writing about figureheads has its drawbacks. The details about what the great have for breakfast are briefly tantalizing, but only briefly (and it helps if the guest happens to be remarkable themselves).

Lacey puts his position more tactfully: "If I were to pull out of the book what the Queen thinks and feels it wouldn't cover more than a couple of pages [the book is 331 pages long]. It was a good decision to spread it as thinly as he has done."

He has, however, managed to write in a tone which is neither mocking nor adulatory. If at times he seems to verge on the royalist, it is probably because the reader is on the constant look out for tell-tale signs of sycophancy. "I tried," he says, "to strike a balance between independence and affection". The result is not quite critical, but it is detached.

One of the most interesting aspects of *Majesty* is the light it throws on the promotion business. It is going to be a best seller, there is no doubt about

that. Two and a half years went into the research and the writing. Six months are to be devoted to pure promotion. A subscription tour of British bookshops last autumn—carefully angled for area and market—have brought in unprecedented orders. Robert Lacey has been interviewed, looked at, talked to and finally signed (to Hutchinson last summer, for between £40,000 and £50,000). Next week he sets off on a promotion tour of Australia, New Zealand, India and America that will not end until after Easter.

The effort is paying off. He made £5,000 out of Raleigh. He is likely to make £100,000 from *Majesty*. He has decided what to do with it: he has a woman cluttered house in Dulwich which he may exchange for a larger one. Otherwise, "I shall get my car serviced on time, and buy better wine—but not above £2 a bottle".

What can he do next? Whatever the actual merits of the book itself, there can hardly fail to be something largely ephemeral about biography-writing which—however it started—has turned into such a naked exercise in publicity. Robert Lacey is well aware of this. One of the first things he intends to do is to return to the staff of *The Sunday Times*. He is in any case sick of working at home. "With Sandi [a designer], out all day and having nice lunches in town, and Sasha and Scarlet [his two children] coming home after school, and me sitting here like a neurotic housewife". He is just 33, a tall, lanky man with faded jeans and a lot of hair.

But writing *Majesty* has also cleared his mind. He was much mocked by friends when he announced that he was going to write a book about the Queen, and went off with a feeling of guilt reinforced by his original desire to be a serious historian. Both the guilt and the doubt have now vanished. For one thing he became genuinely engrossed in his subject, and is rightly pleased with what bits of original contemporary reporting he has been able to include. But more than that, he feels that *Majesty* was his first serious effort at real biography. "Essex and Raleigh were both re-drawn. This was mine." *Majesty* has called him as an historian, but he takes new pleasure in being a journalist, and whatever he does next it will be to do with people who are still alive, and events that are near enough in history to be reported.

Majesty: Elizabeth II and the House of Windsor, by Robert Lacey, Hutchinson £5.45 (published on January 31).
Caroline Moorehead

Spreading the glory of the Tate

Visitors to the Tate Gallery over the next few months will find more than customary confusion and chaos. Paintings will be hung unusually thick upon some walls, and there will be some startling juxtapositions and strange bed-fellows, cheek by jowl and Bacon by Hockney. This is not a new policy of art of the incongruous introduced by Sir Norman Reid and his colleagues, nor another brick sculpture jape, but the first dawn of more spacious days within the appropriately sugar architecture that the original Mr Cube erected on Millbank.

The Tate Gallery extension, for which we seem to have been waiting as long as Penelope waited for Odysseus or Whistler for Ruskin, is nearly finished. Or, to be exact, there has been another last-minute hitch, this time with the air-conditioning. But the end is in sight, and the extension is due to open in the autumn. It will provide half as much hanging space again as the present gallery, bringing welcome relief to the Tate, which is more embarrassed with riches than most great collections.

At present it can display only between 1,000 and 1,200 of its paintings at one time; its collections consist of about 8,000 paintings; so the rest have to be stored unseen.

The extension, by providing more space and more flexible space, will enable the Tate to reconcile its difficult double function as both historic national collection and gallery of modern art from all over the world more happily than ever before. The extension is designed as a single large space, free from supporting columns, so that all services have to be accommodated in the roof. It can be divided into 21 separate bays, each approximately 30 feet square and at least 16 feet high. The roof of each bay is a separate unit containing independent air-conditioning and both natural and artificial lighting.

The Tate has decided to use the first six months of its new space as a celebration to display its permanent collections more fully than has been possible before. The whole of the left side of the building will be occupied by the Historic British Collection; paintings, including a selection of drawings and watercolours, and a few examples of sculpture, from the sixteenth century to the early twentieth century. The Modern Collection (British and foreign art since circa 1875) will occupy the whole of the

right side of the building, including the new galleries and also the space in the centre of the building, which is normally used for temporary exhibitions.

The Modern Collection is larger, and moreover, are on average, so much more expensive than their predecessor.

Previous versions of the Tate have reluctantly decided to play it in two separate sections.

The first section will open in autumn will show in three months, it will be succeeded by an exhibition of Tate's best art of the 25 years. For the coherence, the two divisions will have a small overlap.

Philip

At last the facts on fresh food

Latest evidence from the Price Commission will bring gloom to lovers of fresh food and joy to manufacturers of sausages, fagots, fish fingers and tinned vegetables.

The commission's index of fresh foods, published yesterday, shows that they rose faster last year than all foods taken together, which in turn rose more than the cost of living in general.

Food processors are sure to seize on the commission's evidence to promote the comparative cheapness of their own products. The figures are official, after all. They are also unusually detailed and offer the best available data about a section of the food trade where obscurity has encouraged suspicion and accusations about profiteering.

Prices of fresh foods are not subject to the strict controls under which processors of food have groused for almost four years. If a maker of instant mashed wants to raise his price he must tell the commission and expect to suffer an order to

cancel the increase if it turns out to be against the rules.

If fresh potatoes go up and up, there is little that the commission can do. It has no power to impose a ceiling on prices either directly or by squeezing grocers' profits. Instead it makes regular surveys of fresh foods, which have shown so far that the shopkeepers have little chance of getting far enough round the pressures of competition to make excessive profits.

Price changes over the year to November belie the claim of meat traders that prices of fish have risen faster than those of meat. They also show clearly the slowing of inflation on bacon which has stimulated an increase in consumption after years of decline.

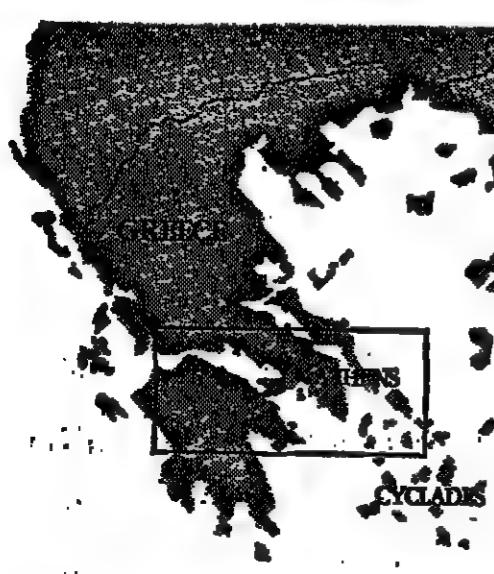
Although fish prices rose by about a tenth during the autumn, prices of some popular meat cuts increased by more than that.

The commission found that the size of price rises on the most expensive cuts was less than those on the cheaper ones.

Hugh

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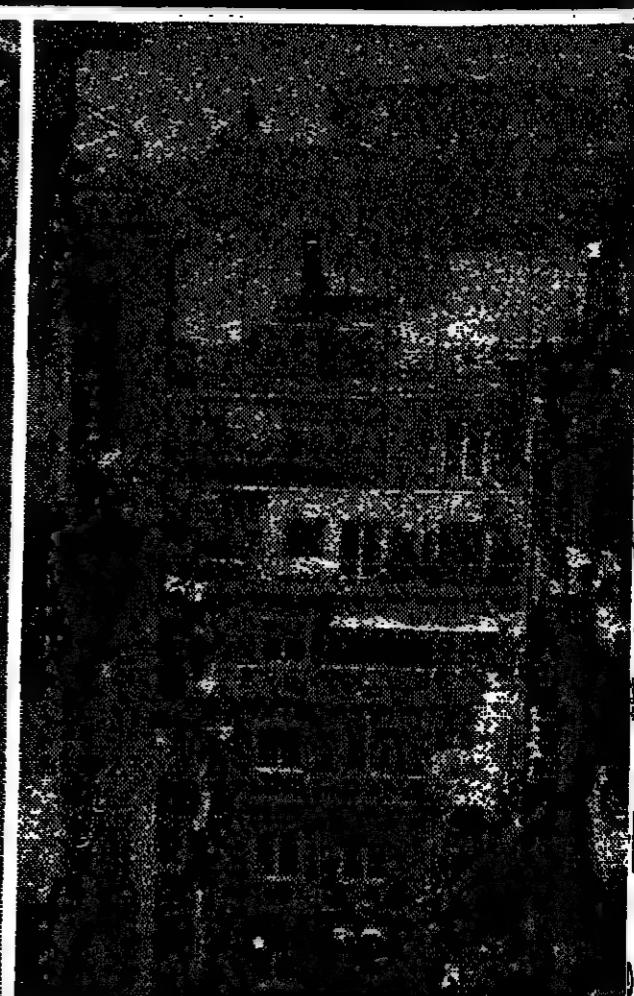
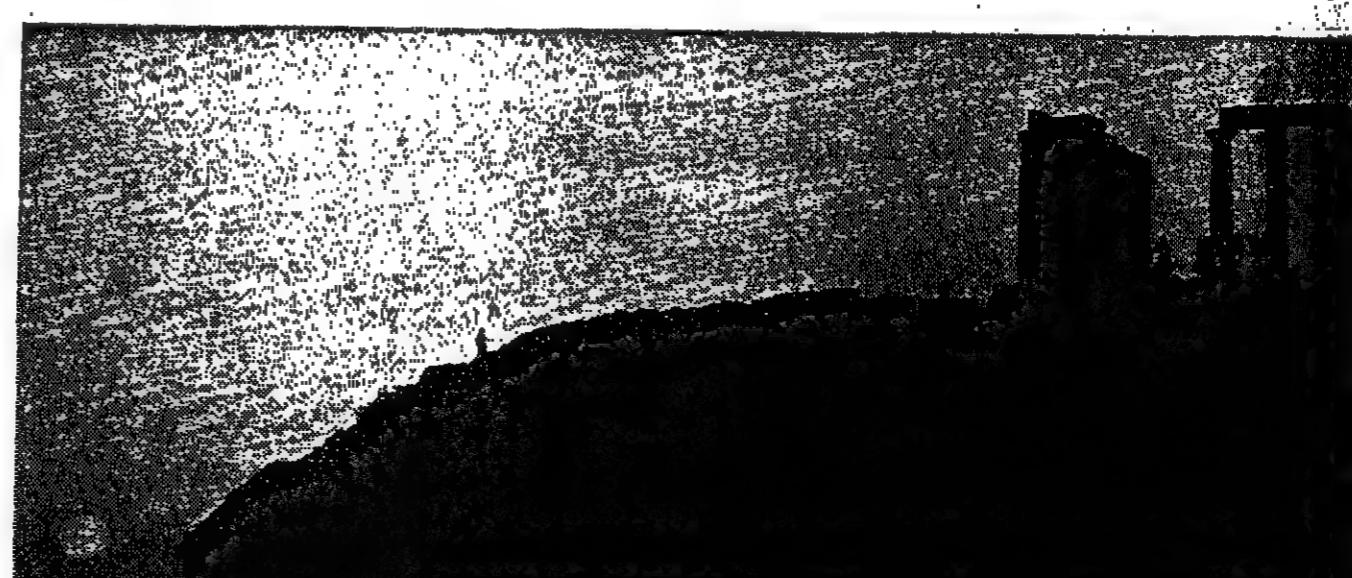
Or Evia, a massive peninsula-like island created, it would seem, solely for the sun-worshipper. Mile after mile of golden beaches, including that oasis in a supersonic world, the deserted cove.

Or further afield, the breathtaking splendour of Delphi, the ghostly quiet of Olympia, and even Marathon itself, a modest twenty-six miles and a few hundred yards away (as the athlete runs).

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NICE

Challenge for capital of Riviera

Largrove the choice tourist clientele up to the Second World War, would be back again in strength when North Sea oil had begun to flow in large quantities.

To convince oneself that the luxury tourist trade survives, one needs only to drop into the ultra-modern new Ruhl Casino, with its gambling rooms and "grand cabaret" sumptuously decorated in mahogany and blue velvet, where a floor show in the lavish style of the Paris Lido is staged every night. It was built on the site of the old Palace Hotel of the same name, and opened at the end of 1974 in order to win back to Nice the wealthy international clientele which had tended to desert it in recent years. As a result, last year the town recovered its place as France's top gambling centre ahead of Divonne, with earnings of 81m francs.

Nice has since turned its back on its traditional rôle of a pack of essential building, their rooms of ball-functional dation, tourism on the increase, the profits of the town in the hands of the mayor, M. the municipal delinquent, Nica on the dead venue seminars, business increasing 40 per cent reassessments and were held in Nica in gibbons in international well-established last year more than

Thanks to the rise in activity, an extended the whole of November, a somewhat tourist image Antibes, is coexistence" of tourists asked the director for this came ed that the yed golf, or ed, were not for picnics they did not re hotels and emphasized us for all uses.

There are there or for 30 l. It is the life of us grand wants to impoverished with a shrink who was sure the old town to the east,



The lighter side: carnival preparations (above), the Baie des Anges development (top right) and a flower stall in the Old Market.

between the now partially covered bed of the Paillon river, the harbour, and the castle, with its picturesque narrow streets, and tall houses with the washing hanging from the windows, its baroque churches, its handsome seventeenth and eighteenth-century palaces, like the Lascaris Palace, has been preserved and is being renovated.

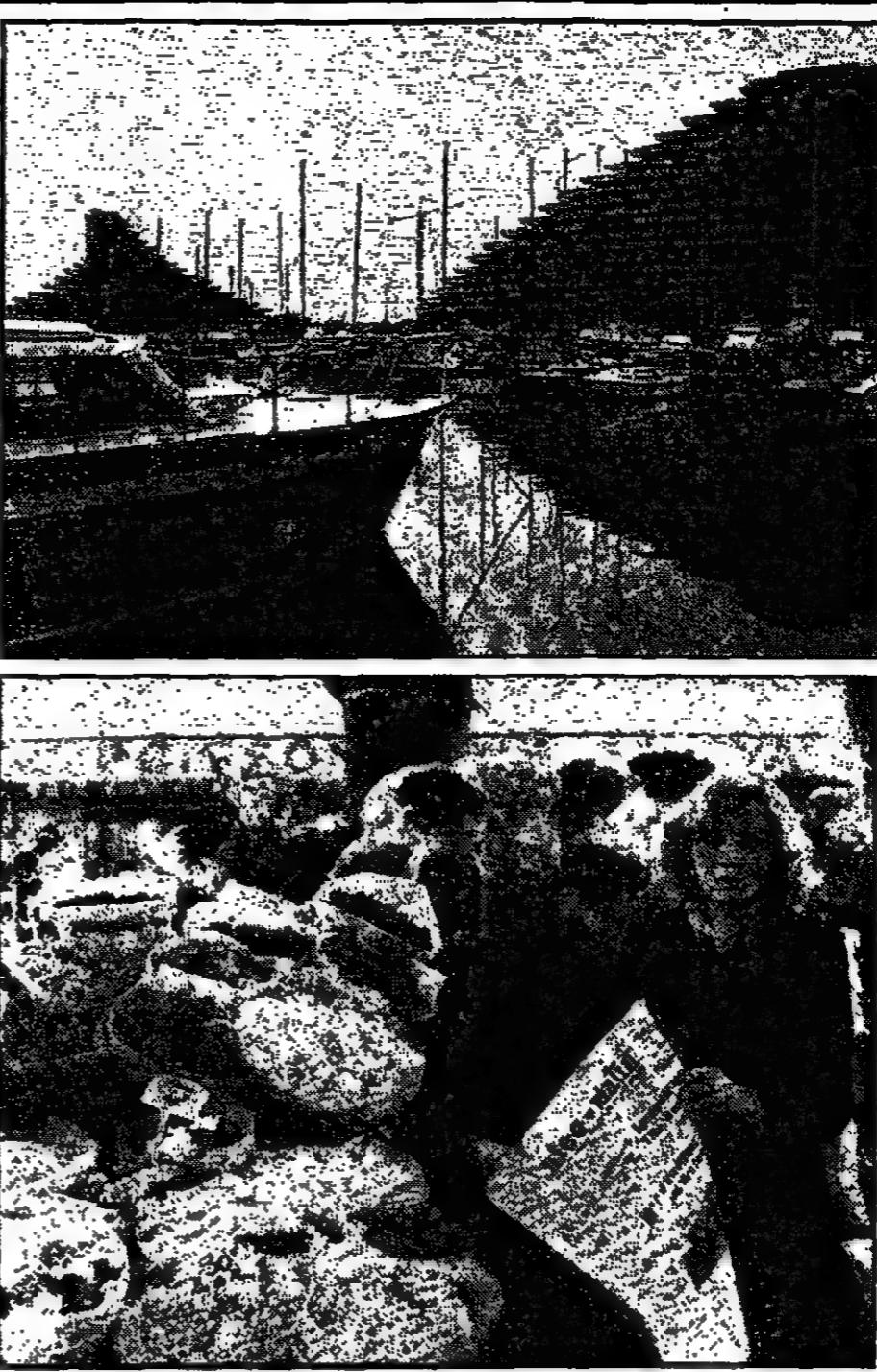
To the west of the Paillon, the "new town" with classical façades, colonnes and pediments, painted the deep ochre of the House of Savoy, of which the Place Masséna is a fine example, was designed under the supervision of Turin—to which Nice belonged till 1860—on a very strictly supervised plan.

Some of its main features have been preserved, but most private villas in their handsome gardens have given way to modern blocks of flats. Houses dot all the hills overlooking the town but the mayor, whose word is law in Nice, has vetoed the building of council flats and tall apartment blocks on them.

This means two things: that Nice is condemned to a permanent process of modernization and development; and that new activities have to be created to supplement the traditional ones. All this has to be done without destroying too much of the character of the town.

"Some nostalgic people" the mayor told me, "deplore the passing of the Nice of yesteryear. But if it had been preserved Nice would now be a dead city." In the process, some of the charm has inevitably been lost. But the old town to the east,

To ease the congestion,



photographs by Carlos Freire

Mass tourism rings the changes

by John Ardagh

When St Majesté Carnaval XII rolls out in cereals next month, and the coloured rocks explode into the night, and the confetti rains on the giant grotesques, who will be watching? American convention delegates, Japanese with their cameras, Americans with their refined package groups from Holland and Sweden and even a few survivors from the nation that created tourism on this coast and gave its name to this proudest of promenades.

In the past 10 years since M. Médecin became mayor, Nice has been vastly transformed, but even more ambitious plans are under way. The international airport, the second largest in the country, will be doubled and its capacity raised to 10 million passengers by filling in the sea to the south.

A deepwater port will be built next to it at the mouth of the Var, and the old harbour of Lympia turned into a yachting centre. An administrative and business complex is planned in the same area, the beach will be widened, and a sea-water swimming pool constructed.

In the longer term, the Promenade des Anglais will be

reserved to pedestrians and traffic will be removed entirely.

Today the British are no

more numerous than the

Japanese or Arabs, each

account for some 10 per

cent of the Côte d'Azur's

two million foreign visitors

a year, with the Americans

in first place (30 per cent)

and then the Germans (15 per cent).

Times have changed indeed, and Nice and the other towns have been changing too, to meet the new demands of mass tourism and conference tourism. That is where the money is. The Alpes-Maritimes is still the leading tourist department of France, with four million visitors a year. In August, Nice's basic population of 360,000 swells to 600,000, and traffic all along the coast is congested, despite the new motorways. May, too, height of the festival season, is a frenzied month. The world economic crisis has not yet affected tourism as much as was feared—but there are clouds on the horizon.

Of all the resorts, Cannes

has succeeded best in cashing in on the convention boom while retaining its fashionable image. It has a dynamic tourist policy, coordinated by the mayor and his staff. He is M. Bernard Cormat-Gentile, former minister under de Gaulle. His director of tourism, M. Jean Romand, told me: "Those awful tall buildings on the skyline are not to our taste: here, we allow no new building higher than the towers of the Carlton, eight floors. And we've banned through traffic along La Croisette."

The nearest wish of the Nices and of their mayor, in the first place, is that this unnatural alliance will be broken up, and that Nice will become the head of a region comprising the Alpes-Maritimes and part of the Var. But the Government is very reticent, for fear that other départements, uncomfortably matched elsewhere in the country, might want to follow suit.

In more ways than one

Nice is a town which, under the guidance of its very energetic and resolute mayor for the past 11 years, and of his father for 39 years before him, is firmly turned towards the future. This is also reflected in the growing younger element of the population, since the creation of the university in the early 1970s has kept in Nice thousands of young people who previously had to go away to study and brought in many from outside.

It compensates for the

higher average age—9 per

cent above that of the

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current a few years ago that

Nice was a town of old

elderly people, living on in an atmosphere of genteel decay and recollections of a glorious past. It still has

many problems to overcome

before it has met the challenge of marrying past and present. But it is not shirking the issue.

The hotels rely partly on passing trade. Some of the grander ones, notably the exotic Negresco, retain a faithful clientele and still do good business. But it seems significant that the new hotel, the 438-room Méridien that opened in 1973 on the site of the old Ruhl, has never proved a success. Its operator, Air France, is cutting its losses by closing 100 rooms and reducing facilities.

The lesser hotels, too small for the convention traffic, share the general problems of France's hotel industry. Their French clients still perversely refuse to take summer holidays outside July and August. And though a fair trade can be done with foreign groups in early summer or autumn, the high season is too short for profitability. Add to this the public's growing preference for camping or staying in holiday flats, and the money is. The Alpes-Maritimes is still the leading tourist department of France, with four million visitors a year. In August, Nice's basic population of 360,000 swells to 600,000, and traffic all along the coast is congested, despite the new motorways. May, too, height of the festival season, is a frenzied month. The world economic crisis has not yet affected tourism as much as was feared—but there are clouds on the horizon.

These ambitions plans are deliberately geared to the scale of a regional capital. Since the division of France into 22 economic regions in 1972, Nice and the Alpes-Maritimes, despite their completely different economic structure and interests, have been forcibly wedded to Marseilles, which is essentially an area of heavy industry.

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Altered the
scenery

by Michael Hanson

Alvaro Maura, for the development of 1,016 villas in a scheme known as Les Hauts de Vaugrenier.

That is not the most controversial residential development on the Côte d'Azur, however, which distinction seems to belong to the plan to build 4,000 villas on 1,000 acres of unspoiled hillside at Vence, by a company known as Vence Developments. Nevertheless, there is likely to be a ready market for these properties 70 per cent of which will probably be bought by French purchasers, either as holiday homes or for their retirement or as an investment.

Some companies regard the idea of setting up in Nice rather as they would regard Miami." M. Philippe Girbal, of the French Industrial Development Board in London, says: "The Côte d'Azur will never become a great industrial centre."

That is good news for those who like the French Riviera the way it is, or rather the way it was, for recent developments have already had an impact on the environment, and more are on the way, though many schemes have been nipped in the bud by conservationists or by the declining fortunes of property developers, some of them British.

There is no room for complacency, however, for some of the largest developments are now under construction.

The biggest commercial development scheme in the Côte d'Azur is English Property Corporation's Etoile Centre project, which will occupy a whole block on the principal shopping street, avenue Jean Médecin, at its junction with boulevard Dubouchage.

First announced with a flourish just seven years ago, it is not EPC's fault that construction work has only just started, for the city council did not complete its compulsory purchase of the last part of the site until last year, and final planning permission was granted only a few months ago.

Even so, that is well below the prices prevailing in Cannes, especially in the exclusive California area, where luxury apartments in the Mariposa development have been selling at prices up to 7m francs each to French and Iranian buyers.

However, it is residential development that has done most to alter the face of the Riviera, with new blocks everywhere along the precious coast even though the sea between Marseilles and Genoa is the most polluted in the whole of the Mediterranean, being described as "a cheap sink for industrial wastes" in a recent report by the environmental directorate of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).

That did not discourage the developers of marinas, of which there are now 14 on the Côte d'Azur, though protests from conservationists have led to a ban on the development of an area between St. Tropez and Monte Carlo.

It was not so much the yacht harbours that themselves that were popular, as the fact that they came to be regarded as a pretext for massive residential development, the most spectacular example of which is the Marina Baie des Anglais, at Villeneuve-Loubet, only five kilometres along the coast from Nice airport.

It is also at Villeneuve-Loubet, inland from the Marina Baie des Anglais development, that big new developments are taking place on the 3,000 acre family estate of the Marquis de Piancastelli. Here a site of 50 acres was sold to Texas Instruments for an electronics factory, and 300 acres was sold to a local developer,

After dark, the network of little open-air bars and dance floors with their illuminated waterfalls are lit by a myriad flaming torches, and you can dance on big metal tables in a pool full of flowers. "Our image," the manageress said, "is the marriage of fire and water," and the night is still tender here for the minor fashionable people "who come and go among the whisperings and the champagne and the stars".

Close by is the much-hated Marina Baie des Anglais: a pleasure-plot flanked by three 20-storey zigzag blocks of flats, aggressive walls of concrete that screen the hills from the sea and are out of scale with the landscape. Since this project began, a big conservation campaign has gathered force along the whole coast to prevent similar eyesores. It has recruited wide support and seems to have had some influence. At the same time the economic crisis has slowed down the extravagant tourist building boom of the early 1970s. Many of the new holiday flats remain unsold.

A leading hotelier told me: "It's the middle class that is hit by the crisis, and this level of tourism is suffering. But the really rich still seem to have the money, and they still come here in search of that rarity, real luxury and old-style personal service." Hotels are still being built for these people, such as the Mas d'Artigues out on a hilltop near St Paul-de-Vence, where each suite has its private swimming pool.

Down in Cannes, the rich are as numerous as ever, if not quite the same rich. At one famous hotel I learnt that the suites, 10 years ago a near monopoly of Americans, were nearly all occupied by Arabs or Iranians. At another luxury hotel the manager told me: "It's surprising how many wealthy British still manage to come here, and stay even for a month or more. Not as many as in the old days, but far more than you'd expect. So there's still money around in Britain."

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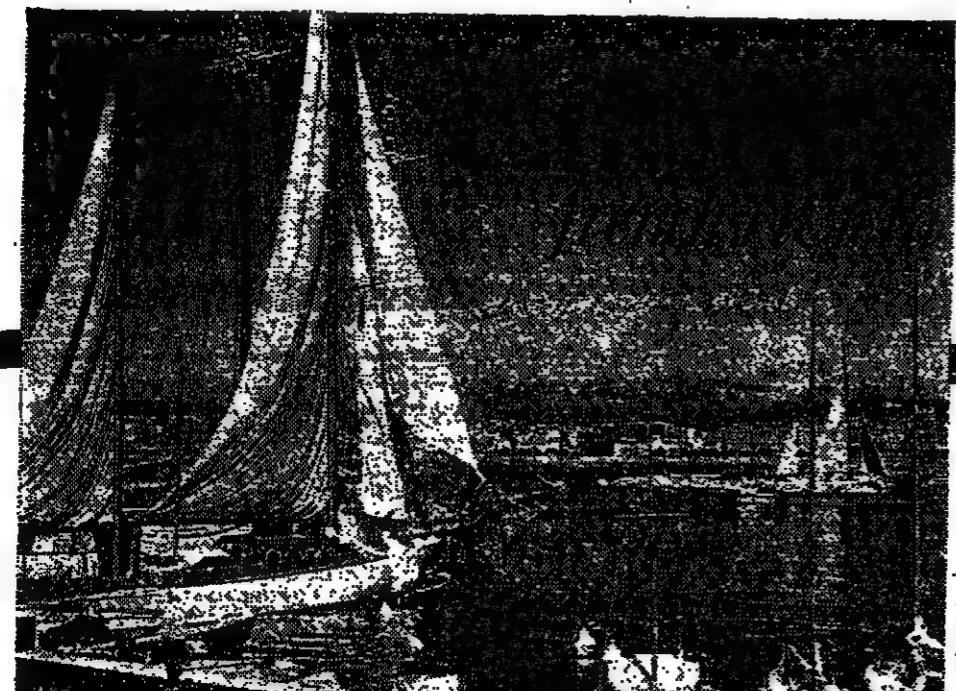
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Elective dynasty

by Charles Hargrove

There is something almost feudal about the relationship between Nice and the Médecin family. For more than half a century it has ruled the town. Jean Médecin the father of the present mayor and junior Minister for Tourism, headed the municipality for 37 years.

When he died in 1965, it seemed the most natural thing in the world to members of the town council that his successor should be his own son, Jacques, who at the age of 33, already had substantial experience of local politics. It was hardly an election, a newspaper not suspect of left-wing sympathies recently commented, but the simple devolution of



M. Médecin, a mayor without doubt.

"There is a lot of talk about a Médecin dynasty," M. Jacques Médecin told me. "But it is very much an elective one, because every six years one has to return before the voters; and those of 1976 are very different from those of 1928, when my father first became mayor."

He faces re-election next March against a more or less united left, with the right divided by the candidature of supporters of M. Michel Joubert, the former Foreign Minister of President Pompidou. Perhaps also, a more realistic politics of weakening and the creation of a university and other remarkable expansion of the town since the war have loosened the perennial Médecin hold on it.

Mentalities are also changing in Nice. The rather authoritarian paternalism of the mayor, whatever the benefits it has brought to Nice in the past 11 years, is less easily accepted in the political climate of post-1968 France than it used to be.

But M. Jacques Médecin is not in danger politically. His control of the political apparatus of his city is too complete and effective. Nor is he one to be assailed by doubt or indecision. He is a man of immense vitality and dynamism, and repudiated of far-reaching political ambition.

Unlike many mayors of large French cities who take refuge in a prudently apolitical stand to curry support from all sides, M. Jacques Médecin nails his colours firmly to the mast—and his are, so to speak, true blue. His enemies say that he is an unapologetic believer in law and order, an uncompromising opponent of the communists. He is confident that his record of achievement in Nice will speak for itself when the time comes.

I give the Nicos a reassuring image. They know I will not upset their habits, or change the aspect of the town. One must maintain that tradition and character, and at the same time adapt the town to the requirements of modern life, and of 250,000 tourists and visitors who come here almost 10 months out of 12," M

Médecin said.

It meant modernizing public services and utilities the whole time, and planning not for a population of 400,000, but of a million and looking to the future. It was a costly affair. All this had to be done in an area where flat land was scarce, and the difficulties of building were comparable to Mexico's.

Not one of the 20 communist councils in the Alpes Maritimes could show anything like his old people's homes. They were models of their kind. The prairies of the left claim. I am an appealing reactionary. But my club for young workers is unmatched in the whole department. It is not a skimped, prefabricated job, hidden away somewhere, but a good, light, airy, substantial building, set in a housing estate,

with all the necessary amenities.

The communists had launched a campaign for the construction of council flats on the fringe of green hills surrounding the town, which were an essential part of its environment. But he had resisted the pressure. "Le Nouvel Observateur" (the independent left-wing weekly) recently suggested that Nice was a city of housing scandals. But if some speculators have gone bankrupt, it is precisely because they could not get away with shady deals, and were opposed by a mayor who defended the character and environment of his city". M. Médecin added.

Some deplored that the old prewar charm of Nice was lost. "If Nice had preserved its between-the-wars charm, it would be a dead city now. It had to evolve. Fifty years ago, a few hundred privileged families came to Nice for winter holidays. I had a grandfather who owned a hotel of 140 rooms. Six Russian families of great wealth with plenty of leisure, used to take them up for the season. The Russians of yesterday are replaced by the Arab sheikhs and magnates today. But this is a recent phenomenon."

Tourism had changed in character. There was more and more mass tourism. Nice, as a tourist centre, must adapt to the requirements of several different clientele. Here, they cohabited harmoniously.

"I have always defended the image of Nice as a holiday centre for all. Do you know that one can have a very decent meal here for 35 francs? There are leisure facilities for every purpose. At the same time, in order to amortize the extensive tourist facilities of the town, I have pursued a deliberate policy of varied activities over 10 months in the year."

I asked him what truth there was in the rumours that the Promenade des Anglais might change its name. "There never was any question of that either," he said. "There is a real cult for the British Royal Family in Nice and a great attachment to the memory of Queen Victoria, who was our best public relations agent. Nice is one of the towns in France where the population is most widely English speaking. It is rare to go into a shop and find no one speaks English."

He deplored that the British consulate in Nice had been closed. But that, he said, was not Britain's fault. It was the fault of the French political structure.

by John Ardagh

France's much-trumpeted new scientific park on the wooded plateau of Valbonne, just inland from Cannes and Antibes, continues to come into being slowly. The world economic climate has seen it behind schedule, but firms are still signing up to settle there. Last month a new contract was announced: Dow Chemicals will transfer its European headquarters, joining other firms such as Rohm & Haas whose chemists and executives are already at work in this pastoral setting, amid the scent of lavender and the whirr of cicadas and bulldozers, with wide views towards the Alps and the blue Baie des Anges.

The plan for the Valbonne park was launched in 1969 by Pierre Laffitte, now director of the Ecoles des Mines de Paris, and originally from the Nice-area. The purpose was to help to diversify the economy of the Alpes-Maritimes, far too dependent on tourism and its ancillary, the building industry. Today the unemployment level in the department, 10 per cent, is the highest in France. The descending "playground of Europe" seems almost a sick joke.

M. Laffitte's initial project was tucked away in a corner of France, this highly-populated strip of coast is not suited for heavy industry. Nor has it ever had much. In the days when Queen Victoria stayed in the monstrous pile of the former Hotel Regis in Nice, she wanted lifts to the upper floors, so a local elevator industry grew up to meet her command. But the last of its species is about to close. Today, this kind of industry is no solution.

On the other hand, the Nice area would seem to be suitable as a venue for research and advanced technological services, and maybe for international company headquarters. It has a new university, with 17,000 students. It has the leading French airport outside Paris, with direct flights to many parts of the world. And above all, the sunny and glamorous Côte d'Azur is hardly an area to which it is hard to entice senior staff.

Even before the Valbonne venture, the coast was evolving in a scientific direction. IBM was the pioneer. In 1962 it decentralized its main French research plant from Paris to a pleasing new location on a hill above the Var valley at La Gauda near Vence, where it now employs 1,300 people, 28 of them British. It has since been followed by Texas Instruments, which does research

The firms already at work seem pleased with their choice. The director of Rohm & Haas told me he had no difficulty in persuading his senior international staff to come to live in the area nor in recruiting good local labour including bilingual secretaries. The park lies beside the Nice-Paris motorway and is 15 minutes' drive from the airport.

The only serious criticism

Science in the sun

and light manufacture at Villeneuve-Loubet, and by several French firms including Thomson CSF.

The most serious threat comes from the state of the world's economy. Since about 1974 clients have proved harder to attract. Rank Xerox had bought an option at Valbonne for building a data processing centre, but recently cancelled this as part of its world cut in new investment. A number of other firms are hesitating to complete their contracts, while a Valbonne official admitted that some foreign firms seem to be waiting for the results of the French elections.

The purpose of the Parc International d'Activités de Valbonne Sophia Antipolis (to give it its full name) is to give a new and stronger focus to this trend by providing a fully planned and fully equipped site with space for dozens of centres. The inspiration has come partly from the new American scientific parks. The hope is that one day this could be the leading European complex of its kind, especially as Nice is well situated for dealing with the expanding economies of Mediterranean and Middle Eastern countries.

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The only serious criticism

I heard is that Nice airport, though busy, is too tourist-oriented and many flights are purely seasonal.

If the world's brightens, these may prove no temporary. After from the problem costs, Valbonne is to any particular schedule. It is a scheme whose not be judged to 10 or 20 years, as it marks an attempt to provide d'Valbonne with a wick in an age when longer live on the. Yet the climate and other delights of Valbonne's gr points.

New Village on the Côte d'Azur

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Communications gap

Vivès stage of construction, they make inroads into the hills 2,500 passengers in 1975. sun-drenched so dear to the nature lovers and environmentalists and refees its milists. Nice, of the whose population is almost trebled in the high season wave after wave of large lorries are to be seen carrying earth to the site.

Nice to La Pointe de Contes (more than 15,000 vehicles daily) is being built to reduce traffic in one of Nice's industrial areas and been develed to the Le Paillon valley which was in danger of suffocation. Here the growth is to ions style of construction works.

nevertheless ated in Nice and the Nice are that if they will continue to their new equate com tem or risk economic the Alpes is a long ent and its and sub into new actions with mediate hider motives play full regional seat bas upon a sental but jects.

car of roads under the Alpes adized pro of 34m ent of which the département meet y, 1976, it roadworks nearly 39m total capital 18m francs. as recently as roadways in all of 2,50 n. Nice is decongest to be an y, to the ement the ith, which particularly area. The nial to im w, but just in crossing s near the will cost, some 400m

Then there is a still more ambitious project, the expansion of the inter roads running to north mouth of the Var. This is the second largest provin an early cl airport (after Marig-

Marseilles) with 2,500 passengers in 1975. Work has already begun and local people can watch have attracted a great deal its progress day by day. The Colline de Crémant, a hill much-needed relief to a city whose population is almost bulldozed to the ground and trebled in the high season wave after wave of large lorries are to be seen carrying earth to the site.

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Cagnes to Vence has been under discussion since 1965 but, in what must be recognized as a particularly picturesque area, the ecologists are ever-watchful and a painstaking record has to be kept of every tree destroyed and immediately replaced. The La Côte sur Loup section will be completed this year; that serving Vence in two years.

Cannes to Grasse is another old scheme, first suggested 16 years ago. The road between these two towns will be like a motorway, running through the most distinctively provincial countryside in the département. The land on the route has been left undeveloped. Menton to Sospel, the port to pass under the Col de Castillon, is scheduled for completion within two long.

In autumn, 1979, the final section of the A8 motorway from La Turbie to Roquebrune will be opened; it will then be possible to drive all the way from Paris to Rome by motorway.

Whereas Marseilles is building its Metro, Nice, not far from the Côte d'Azur. The feasibility studies for the tunnel have now been completed after two years and the best route (through the valley of the Vésubie river) has been decided, but it will take 10 years before it is built. As for the Nice-Corbières link destroyed during the last war, it is wending its way gradually, tunnel after tunnel.

There is no lack of ideas, therefore, or of enthusiasm for this rebuilding of isolated urban areas, inimitable countryside and daunting mountains. But it will not be easy either technically or financially, to meet the challenge.

Following the example of other French towns, Nice hopes to introduce a revolutionary form of transport to complement the services at ground level, with cabins suspended in the air by cables capable of carrying four to 12 passengers travelling at speeds of up to 50km an hour.

The author is Nice Correspondent, *Le Monde*.

by Patricia Tisdall

The art of flower growing and, from this, the manufacture of perfume play an important part in the economy of Nice. The town of Grasse, about 35km north-west of Nice, has about 20 important parfumeries and is said to be the birthplace of French perfume.

Closer to Nice at the Cap d'Antibes is the internationally known Melland Research Centre which specializes in roses for sale both as cut flowers and for planting in gardens. Antibes is also known for its field of carnations and has been described as the capital of cut flowers.

An important attraction for tourists as well as traders is the flower market in the cours Saleya in the old town of Nice. Less picturesque but more important, however, is the bigger market at Nice-Saint-Augustin, probably the most important flower market in France.

Flower cultivation and market gardening are next to tourism, the most important of the traditional industries of the region. So far, at least, neither appears to have been significantly affected by restrictions imposed by the authorities for international trade in exotic products imported from other countries.

Perfume making was introduced to Grasse in the sixteenth century when the town specialised in tanning leather and making gloves.

The development of fragrance came with the Italian Renaissance fashion for gloves and doubles treated with perfumed grease or oil.

Gradually, during the eighteenth century, the production of perfume came to dominate the economy of Grasse and the glove and perfume makers abandoned glove making to concentrate on perfume.

By the middle of the nineteenth century, large firms such as Fragonard and Molinard had been established to use locally-produced aromatic plants and flowers such as lavender, jasmine, orange blossom, mimosa, violets, Jonquill and roses.

Production of flowers is still very much a local activity.

The flowers cover hundreds of acres but they are spread out and mostly grown on terraces by peasant farmers, each of whom may own a single small rose, jasmin or tuberose field.

In addition to locally-produced flowers and herbs

there is considerable international trade in exotic products imported from other countries. Japan sends peppermint, ginger and camphor to be distilled at Grasse. Java sends Vetiver, which has a very persistent odour, and myrtle. India sends sandalwood. Petitgrain comes from Paraguay and neroli from Brazil. Geraniums are still coming from Réunion Island but are now also imported from North and Central Africa.

The final product in small, expensive bottles and jars wrapped in cellophane and packed in luxury boxes is exported all over the world.

In addition to perfume for women, creams and bath lotions, toilet soaps incorporating olive oil (also extensively used in cooking in the area) and even shaving cream are part of the industry.

The principles of perfume production devised by Fragonard and Molinard are still used, though modern laboratory techniques have been introduced to increase the volume of production and to control quality. Modern methods are used for packaging, labelling and distributing the perfumes.

Sweet smell of success

Highly volatile and potentially dangerous substances for production of plants for scent. Of this, cultivation for cut flowers covers more than 7,500 acres mostly in the Alpes-Maritimes and Var.

Control of pollution is very much in the flower growers' interests as well as those directly involved in the tourist trade. The Riviera claims to lead the fight in France against the pollution of beaches and stretches of water. A unit has been set up to carry out control and surveillance operations known as La Cellule d'interdiction contre la Pollution dans les Alpes-Maritimes (CIPAL).

Among other activities, this unit has a daily aerial surveillance of the 75-mile coastline during the summer to test sea pollution caused by oil slicks or large-scale waste deposits. A radio link enables boats to intercept and treat the polluted waters before they reach the beaches.

Flower production is concentrated, divided into five main areas, growing flowers for cutting, flowering plants and pot plants, ornamental foliage plants, rock plants for use in parks and gardens and

Roger Vergé, is one of the high priests of the arrosons and modest new Grande Cuisine française school, along with M. Paul Bocuse and others. Like them, he is now a national figure in this land where top chefs are as publicized and publicity-conscious as pop stars.

Odd to think that a few years ago he was running airport catering services in East Africa. Today, his terrine de sardines or sauté Bourguignonne is often fished off Tunisia and is known by Nice fishmongers as "daurade Bourguignonne".

Of Nice's many expensive restaurants, the best by current reputation is none other than that of the city's grandest: Edouard à la pile, Hotel Negresco. It has recently acquired a new chef, who worked for some years in Mayfair. But let us be held against him, for I was delighted by the delicacy of his mille-feuille au foie gras, boudin de rouget, daurade au caneton, and other dishes.

Outside Nice, in the big resorts such as Menton, or in the hill villages, you can find excellent meals at 2,500 to 5,000 francs. The price varies with the comfort of the cabin, not the grandeur of the cuisine. For this you spend four days on a liner where France's most glorious chefs, M. Bocuse, M. Vergé, M. Michel Guérard and company not only cook for you but lecture to you, drink with you, even dance with you.

by John Ardagh

All along this coast there are bodes of restaurants, smart and simple, that serve the classic dishes of Provence—bouillabaisse and the rest. For my taste, this is the most enjoyable of all French regional cuisines.

It may not equal the finesse of the best Lyonnais or périgordin cooking, but it is wonderfully varied—a blend of the traditions of mountain people and fisherman, as befits an area where the mountains sweep to the sea. It is strongly flavoured, with garlic, herbs and oil—heaven help you, if you do not like garlic.

Within this provencal tradition, Nice has its own distinct local cuisine. It is poorer, less elaborate, closer to the Italian style: after all, this was formerly an Italian town. Ravioli, pizza, and soupe de poisson (with vegetables, basil and gruyère) are among its specialties, along with the ubiquitous salade niçoise which is generally massacred by restaurants in

Britain through failure to provide the right dressing or ingredients.

Few of the true niçois dishes feature on smart menus. But you can easily find them, at moderate prices, in the small bistros of the humbler quarter. One evening I was taken to Chez Paulin, well off the tourist track—an experience that proved as much sociological as gastronomic. An eccentric elderly widow owns the place, and does all the cooking. You eat what she chooses to give you, and pay about 40 francs (with wine) for the set menu, scraped on a blackboard in her rough-and-ready dining-room full of bric-a-brac. In one corner is an ancient piano.

We were served a succession of niçois starters: socca (the traditional snack of the poor of Nice: pancake of ground chick-peas, bit like batter pudding), pissaladière (onion tart), salade niçoise (with plenty of oil and tunny), ravioli, and then as a main dish "alouette sans pieuvre" (oddly, this means paupiette de veau and is no kin of Quebec folkson). The meal was interesting, if not exquisite.

Later the merry widow, hot from her stove, treated us to an impromptu cabaret act, taunting her guests and reciting a string of risqué stories in niçois dialect (not unlike provencal). The big parties of local diners roared their delight and translated for us into French. It was as much casual, uncommercial, and we felt we had stayed in on some private festivity.

In the alleys of the ville there are numerous lively little restaurants, less bizarre than Chez Paulin, offering a reasonable Provençal meal for only 25 francs or so. Nice need not prove an expensive town for the English visitor in search of good food, even in these bad days for sterling.

The Cours Saleya, where the daily fruit and flower markets are held, is filled with modest and cheerful fish restaurants. At La Gargantua I had a richly pungent soupe de poisson, properly served with red garlic sauce, followed by daurade, grilled on an open charcoal fire in the centre of the room. Next door, Chez Fernand La Moule provided

a large plateful of oysters and a fine riz aux moules: that your "poisson du pays" is likely to have come from distant parts of the Mediterranean or even the Azores.

Daurade is often fished off Tunisia and is known by Nice fishmongers as "daurade Bourguignonne".

At La Tarte d'Or, another tiny and popular place, up a side alley, the exuberant pied noir owner tuttoz all his guests whether he knows them or not. He served us cuisses de grenouille à la provençale that seemed to come from frogs the size of small chickens. He said they were from China.

The bouillabaisse in Nice is not always as subtle or authentic as in its Marseilles homeland, nor will you often come across that other noble provençal dish *ailoli* (garlic mayonnaise with sole, cod and assorted vegetables). But it is easy to find other regional dishes such as *bœuf en daube* or *poulet à l'estragon*. Many of the bigger restaurants feature a buffet of splendidly rich hors-d'œuvre, with imaginative crudités and fish in spicy sauces.

Loup, daurade and rouget are among the best local fish, but they are never cheap, nor are they often as local as the menus may claim. The seas off Nice are patron-chef of the latter, M.

Nice,

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C. de La Pastellière



2700 hours of sunshine annually, fifth city of France — Nice... no, the true spirit of our town is not to be in statistics - that mania of our times. people of Nice tell you quite simply our city is blue... blue of the sky, blue of the air. To them Nice means the palms of the Promenade des Anglais, the narrow streets of the Old Town ; it is the animation, the riot of color of the flower market. I will tell you of the cicadas in the pines in summer, the perfume given to the land and wild flowers by the Mediterranean. They will talk of the olive trees, the onions and the mimosa ; of their carnival and the lovely young girls.

In welcoming you to their hearth and they will say in their local language, "tou ben'vengut en lou nouostré beu ssart!" which is to say, "Welcome!"

Bernard Levin

Honourable brothers, have you ever considered the Italo-Oriental method?

It is reported that a group of Italian workers, displeased at some action or inaction on the part of their employers, contemplated going on strike in turnerance of what they saw as "their just demands; other means of enforcing their wishes were also contemplated, including the occupation of their place of business. In the end, however, they decided that, for the time being at least, the situation did not require any such measures on their part, though they deserved the right to take all appropriate steps if circumstances should change. Meantime, feeling that their demands should come the less be made plain to their employers, they hit upon what they felt to be a reasonable compromise. They declared "a state of agitation".

This seems to me a concept so Italian as to become positively Oriental. Nor do I mean to refer to that charming practice of Japanese industrial workers, who seek to support their claims by going on strike for half an hour before their factory opens for work in the morning. No, the eastern quality that I see in the Italian decision is of a much older and gentler variety; it goes with the tea-ceremony of Japan and the painstaking calligraphy of ancient China, with the ritual exchange of compliments in the form of self-depreciation, with the unhurried tempo of civilizations already ancient before Europe began to stir. "Honourable employer", says the representative of the disaffected Milanese in my imagination, "unworthy workforce has decided to declare state of agitation." Rising from behind his desk, the pig-tailed tycoon folds his hands in the sleeves of his exquisitely embroidered silk gown and bows his acknowledgement. A distant clashing of silver gongs indicates that the audience is over.

Or something like that. And the question raised by the picture in my mind's eye is: could a similar practice be developed in Britain? Of course, we could not simply transplant the methods of other nations, though, as I have suggested, the Italians appear to have done precisely that. But what I wish to establish is the principle, not its detailed application. Have we not become too tied to our ancient ways, where industrial relations are concerned, and it is not time we reexamined them, in the light of the Italian example, to see if they might be radically transformed?

Where to find the clue ...

This must not become a matter only of nomenclature. A "state of inactivity" could be declared at British Leyland, for instance, but leaving aside the difficulty of telling it apart from normal conditions there, it would only be a strike by another name, and a strike on the part of the senior management of the Post Office, of "a state of complete inability to distinguish between the credit and debit sides of the ledger" would be open to much the same objection. What we seek is a re-invention of things, not of words. Is there any place for a movement aimed at bringing just such a new concept into our industrial life?

I think there is, and the clue is to be found in existing practice. Take, for instance, the miners' claim for retirement on full pay at the age of 55. When the claim was lodged, the National Coal Board immediately said that to grant it would ruin the industry; instead, they offered an alternative proposal, which would presumably half-ruin the industry. To this the miners responded by holding a ballot, the result of which authorized their leaders to take industrial action in pursuit of the claim. The only thing missing (so far, but there is a long way to go) is an announcement by Mr Michael Foot that the miners' proposal is well within the terms of the social contract.

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The Times Diary

Can the scientists save us?

In 1972 the Club of Rome published a study, called *Limits to Growth*, which postulated that we were running out of resources and that we would indeed have done so by the middle of the next century, when there would be a huge global crisis. Critics of the much-publicised study argued that the forecast ignored the probable advances in science and technology between now and then, which would enable mankind to survive even at something like its present rate of growth.

So the Club of Rome initiated a further study to test the validity of that argument. Yesterday Professor Umberto Colombo of Milan, a co-chairman of the study group, went to Queen Mary College in Mile End Road to tell us about the new work, which is called *Beyond the Age of Waste* and will be published in Britain in due course.

Given the profound importance of the topic, it was disappointing that barely 50 people turned up in the large lecture hall to hear him. More

over, in an apparent demonstration of their enthusiasm in conserving energy resources, the college authorities had ensured that it was several degrees too cold for comfort.

All the same, Colombo's news was fairly cheering. His team of 36 scientists were charged with looking at the question as "pragmatic technological optimists". They investigated three broad areas: energy, raw materials and food.

Potentially, available energy, they found, could sustain a greatly increased population for many centuries, although hydrocarbons could run out in 30 to 40 years. Nuclear energy had the capacity to support four times the present world population, consuming twice as much energy as the present per capita standard in the United States.

The drawback, though, is that it would involve building or replacing two nuclear reactors every day for the rest of time; and difficulties over safety and security had yet to be solved.

For instance, "I wouldn't like

to see Uganda under Mr Amin having to die with plutonium," said Colombo, adding quickly that he had nothing against Amin personally.

The future, the team believed, lies in more use of energy, such as solar and geo-thermal, and in much less wasteful use of the energy available.

The outlook over raw materials was even better. A few were getting scarce but not many were critical, and scientists were already devising substitutes for them.

As for food, this was the trickiest. The study team, said Colombo, were sceptical about the "green revolution", which relied largely on sophisticated machinery and labour-saving techniques, which were not what the Third World wanted. And they were worried about the climate, which had cooled since the start of this century, and as it did so reduced the area of cultivable land.

There were, he revealed, 500 million people in the world suffering from malnutrition, and hunger was likely to treble between now and the year 2100.

At present the per capita income of the rich countries was 13 times that in the poor countries, and the Club of Rome had initiated a further project to devise ways of reducing that figure from 13 to 6.

A questioner said that when he had visited Nigeria, he found

How Parliament can put the judge in the dock

The Court of Appeal's treatment of the postal boycott case, coming soon after its decision, and that of the House of Lords, in the famous Slade, say, or Sozal, could announce that they "have adopted a posture of jurisdictional uncooperativeness". And lost production would be a thing of the past. The steelworkers, faced with the introduction of new machinery, could say that they were undergoing "technological shock" and operate it. British service employees could describe themselves as "entering disengagement". Schoolteachers are experiencing considerable frustration, dustered as "disgraced almost to the point of no return". Then everybody could carry on much as before.

Ex Italia semper aliquid novi; or it's the poor what helps the poor. There is a warming irony in the thought of the other side man of Europe helping Britain out of her economic troubles, and although of course the new method of conducting industrial disputes would not itself solve all our problems (any more). I dare say, that it will solve Italy's, it can hardly fail to make a contribution. What we can offer Italy in return I am not sure, but a start could be made with the compilation of an Anglo-Italian dictionary of trade unionism. I would love to see the workers of Fiat, AGIP or Sase learning to move the reference back, call for the implementation of the composite resolution, and inform the fraternal delegates that his proposal is contrary to rule.

It is quite understandable, although unfair, that the

piction should be entertained. It is a fact that the background of the vast majority of the higher judiciary is well-to-do, upper middle class, public school and Oxbridge. Most (for reasons to do with the nature of law itself and the discriminatory effect of the method of entering the legal profession) are conservative, while both a small and a capital "c" Some, before appointment to the Bench, had openly espoused the Conservative cause, fought elections, or held political office. By contrast, only a handful of judges in recent times have been known to hold socialist views.

It is, however, a large and unjustified step to move from pointing out those facts to saying that they are politically biased and allow personal political inclinations to influence the decisions they make. Those judges, with Lord Denning in the vanguard, are still relatively few in number, but their robust approach, and their refusal, except where absolutely bound by precedent, to be confined to a narrow legalistic framework, has had a significant effect. If the word "political" is used in its broad sense, it is reasonable to say that judges are becoming more political. The more serious allegation has been made, however, that the judiciary is increasingly political in the party sense of the word—making decisions that are systematically pro-Tory, anti-Labour and anti-trade-union, and designed to thwart Labour government policies.

It was not always so. Judges on Trial, a detailed and comprehensive study of the English judiciary by Professor Shimon Shetreet, of the University of Jerusalem, published late last year, demonstrates that it is only in this century that judges have divested themselves of political dependence and involvement. It was common, up to a half century ago, for appointments to the Bench to be made as reward for political time-serving. Lord Halsbury was said to

have appointed a large number of judges "whose only claim seemed to be faithful party service in the House of Commons". Until after the Second World War, the Attorney General's political appointment—was considered to have a claim of priority to become Lord Chief Justice of England.

Lord Hewart, who acceded to that office in dubious circumstances in 1921, was, as late as 1935, writing well-paid articles for popular newspapers on subjects of party political controversy. Law Lords used to take an active part in political debates in the House of Lords and make political speeches on committee bills with criticism of Lord Cottenham's blind spots on the Irish Home Rule Bill in 1922, made in and outside the House, gave rise to the convention that Law Lords participated only in debates on legal issues. Lord Hewart, in keeping with his reputation as the worst Lord Chief Justice England has had, disregarded that convention.

Since the war, criticism of former party office holders becoming judges has all but vanished. There has been no evidence that they have allowed their previous party affiliations to interfere with their judicial functions. One of the great judges of recent times, Lord Reid, was a former Scottish Lord Advocate and Solicitor General, and a current law Lord, Lord Simon of Glaisdale, was Solicitor General in England. Both served under Conservative governments. Neither of them has ever been accused of bringing party politics on the bench.

Some eyebrows were raised when Lord Halsbury, the Lord Chancellor in 1970-74, made a practice of sitting at a Law Bench as he was entitled to do, but it was not suggested that he exhibited any party political bias on any of the appeals on which he sat.

The participation of judges on committees has been a source of some comment, and when Lord Avison, a Scot, was appointed to the Conservative Party policy committee, the royal court criticised his resignation from the committee. A number of judges have been involved in clearing tribunals or committees of inquiry. Where these have been on neutral subjects, like the Aberfan disaster, no objection can be taken. But some have taken on inquiries on politically loaded topics such as Lord Wilberforce on miners' pay and Mr Justice Roskill on the third London airport. The present Lord Chief Justice, Lord Widgery, felt that those subjects went too far into the political arena. Again, in those cases, the potential element of controversy exceeded the actual harm done to the reputation of the judges involved.

On the whole, it has been generally admitted, even by critics and left-wing commentators, that judges seem to be able to cast aside their personal predilections when coming to legal conclusions. Apart from the episode of Mr Justice Donaldson and the National Industrial Relations Court, politically-based criticism revived only with the series of decisions against Labour government ministers in the past few years: television licences, Lake Skytrain, Tameside and now the postal boycott case.

Those decisions have already had an adverse effect on the movement towards a British Bill of Rights. A number of Labour supporters, including some in Parliament, have been heard to express the view that, if judges were to interpret any Bill with the same political bias they had allegedly shown in those recent cases a Labour Government was better off without a Bill. It would be unfortunate if a misconception about the role of judges was to stifle moves towards constitutional reform which so many knowledgeable observers feel to be necessary.

Marcel Berlins
Legal Correspondent
Judges on Trial, A Study of the Appointment and Accountability of the English Judiciary. Shimon Shetreet, North-Holland Publishing, £16.

Express
a bent
for the
ridiculous

Continuing our occasion series on new words and meanings.

According to Sir Malcom, Leader of the Commons, and Chelsea Council, it leaned over backward to maintain a lot at that ended in riot. A delightfully congruous of vogue metaphors. file is Pentagonal or jargon; a synonym is housette. Bending overwards is not the ortho-

people as well as tan and other military

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observing an incon-

uous mode of operation

and avoiding attention.

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satisfy Serbian d



New Printing House Square, London, WC1X 8EZ Telephone: 01-837 1234

OT ABOVE THE LAW

again Lord Denning has ed a judgment of great ance for the law of d. The Attorney General at have the right to bar to the courts when the al law is about to be.

Lord Denning does not that the Attorney has a discretion in such. He has the right to ion whether to initiate on himself. If he decides on then his judgment can be contested by the courts. may, of course, reject the but they cannot refuse to.

Lord Denning was at to point out that the nts that have been cited to this positive exercise discretion by the Attorney. When he deems it act he cannot be stopped so.

what about when he not to do so? The cannot force him to bring on against his will and, even though Lord stated unequivocally there is a public interest sufficiently serious as protection, the Attorney should give his con-

But when he declines to bring an action that prevent others having of access to the courts. is the principle that if were to be con- would mean that success-

sive holders of the office could, in Lord Denning's words, "one after another, suspend or dis- pence with the execution of the laws of England".

The contrary argument is that there are occasions when the public interest is not served by the automatic application of the letter of the law; that where there is a conflict between the two then the public interest should prevail; and that the responsibility for making such a judgment is vested in the Attorney General as the senior Law Officer of the Crown. Mr Silkin has maintained that he is answerable only to Parliament for the exercise of that responsibility. There are, however, objections both of principle and practice to this as an absolute doctrine.

The practical objections were listed by Lord Denning in his judgment. An Attorney General might abuse his prerogative in one of a number of ways. He might be corrupt; he might be influenced by party political considerations; or he might be prejudiced against the group wishing an action to be brought. Lord Denning was careful to stress that these instances were entirely hypothetical, and we are indeed fortunate in this country in having no reason to suspect corruption in our ministers. But it does not stretch the imagination to suppose that ministers,

including Law Officers who are at the same time party politicians in a party political government, might be influenced by partisan political considerations. If it is possible that they might be so influenced, and if there were no appeal from their decision neither to bring nor to approve a particular action, it would mean that those interest groups with the greatest political muscle might be able to place them-selves above the law.

That raises the point of principle. It is not for the Attorney General to be, as Lord Denning put it, "the final arbiter as to whether the law should be enforced or not". He does not have that right according to the law as it has now been pronounced. If it is to be conferred upon him then it is for Parliament to do so as an act of deliberate will by legislation.

Parliament would be acting entirely within its rights if it did this, but it would not be acting wisely. It would be importing an additional and unnecessary political factor to the application of the law. It would be circumscribing the right of the courts to enforce the law and the right of the citizen to appeal to the courts. By far the wiser course would be for Parliament to accept this judgment and to leave the courts unfettered.

PEACE TALKS IN CYPRUS

at meeting in thirteen between the leaders of the nd Turkish Cypriot com-—the men who are still y regarded by foreign ents as President and sident of the same —must surely be re-

as an encouraging ment even if, as Arch- karios said afterwards, differences remain

the two parties. It idea have been surpris- all serious differences them had been resolved meeting of two hours a minutes.

nkash was quick to claim it for bringing the meet- it, by releasing the text er he wrote to the hop on January 9, in e took him up on some made in an interview *Times* last month. In all we must doubt whether est interview with the hoi could in itself have ed a change in Mr Denkash approach, since the Archid not in fact reveal any int change in his known

What he said was, "we ready accepted, under conditions, a federal

"

the discussions since the implications of Turkey's on of one-third of Cyprus became clear, the Greek have in fact been for a genuinely federal as against the tenuous ation of two separate which Mr Denkash i to favour. Arguments he Greek Cypriot camp not to this point, which mon ground, but rather question whether this on should be bi-zonal, or al; in other words, here be only one Turkish should the Turks be given small cantons scattered le island.

ctional opinion held less unanimously that former solution, after of 1974, was realistic. ew was shared by Mr and almost certainly be shared by the Arch himself, for it was in the proposals put by the Greek Cypriot spring. If it was not

spelt out in so many words, that was partly to preserve a bargaining position and partly to postpone a show-down within the Greek Cypriot community until there was some sign that the Turks were offering a settlement worth quarrelling about.

Until this week at any rate there was in fact no such sign. On the contrary, Mr Denkash and his supporters seemed determined to put the least favourable construction on every statement coming from the other side. By torpedoing Mr Clerides and refusing to put forward proposals on the territorial aspect of a settlement they effectively consigned the inter-communal talks at the highest level.

The leaking last Sunday of the European Human Rights Commission's report on Turkish atrocities in Cyprus has clearly increased the pressure on Turkey even further. Belatedly the Turks appear to have realized that, in failing to lodge counter-complaints on Greek Cypriot atrocities against Turkish Cypriots (many of which would certainly have been upheld) and failing even to attempt any defence before the Commission, they made a very serious public relations blunder. But what is encouraging is that they appear to have resisted their usual impulse to react to any international criticism by retreating into an intransigent sulk. Instead Mr Denkash went calmly ahead with his own peace initiative.

If anything has changed now, it is not so much President Makarios as the government of the United States. It is true that in the past two months or so the Archbishop has noticeably intensified his efforts to emphasize his readiness for a moderate and reasonable settlement, but that was clearly because he believed that the changed international situation made it more likely that the Turks would be receptive. It now looks as if he was right.

President Carter was elected with the enthusiastic support of the Greek-American lobby, and several times during his election campaign accused Dr Kissinger of dealing too softly with Turkey on the Cyprus issue. On this more than any other international issue he has a clear commitment to seek movement. It is known that he hopes to involve the European Community in an initiative on the subject, and that this was one of the subjects on the agenda for the talks between Mr Callaghan and Vice-President Mondale in Downing Street last night.

The Turkish Government was therefore well aware that it faced the prospect of increased American pressure, to which—whatever its protests to the contrary—it is vulnerable, especially with last year's Turco-American arms agreement still awaiting Congressional ratification. It knew, moreover, that its domestic political situation—with elections

due in October—would not easily be accepted as a reason for delay. That, no doubt, was why Mr Denkash recently made the remarkably constructive suggestion that negotiations on Cyprus could be conducted by an all-party committee; and that, one must surmise, is why Mr Denkash has suddenly found it worthwhile to reactivate the inter-communal talks at the highest level.

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ith's 'No'

Whitney Straight
lieve that Mr Ivor Richard, a tireless attempts to find solution to the problems in Africa, should be given an appointment and sup- parties concerned to put considered views into action, this to be backed, se, by the necessary and resources, preferably unist, sincerely,
Y STRAIGHT,
Lane,

15.

Mentmore
President of the Victorian

Victorian Society regrets ion of the Department of remont and the Treasury the bequest to the nation House and its contents death duties on the estate e Lord Rosebery.
the collection at Mentmore objects of great value that nance the national collecte there the money to them at auction, the ce of Mentmore as a nian collection, amassed Meyer Amschel de Roth-s between the late 1840s and used in the remarkable designed for Baron de id by Sir Joseph Paxton Stokes, and still largely are no other collections in

Britain of the same range put together in the High Victorian Period, and, despite two sales earlier this century, Mentmore remains much as it was when the Catalogue was published in 1883, the reflection of the tastes of one of the great Victorian collectors. Moreover, as the house of a major nineteenth century political figure, Lord Rosebery, Prime Minister 1892-95, Mentmore has an historical importance that should not be forgotten.

This is a house that should be open to the public, and we have no doubt that the richness of the contents and quality of the building would attract interest. We would therefore urge that the decision be reconsidered even at this late stage, in full consultation with the national museums and National Trust.

Yours,
NIKOLAUS PEVSNER,
12 Bloomsbury Square, WC1
January 26

the English government financial and taxation year began, quite logically, on New Year's Day, March 25.

By the New Style Calendar Act, the calendar year was to be reckoned from January 1 and 11 days during September, 1752 were taken out of the calendar to bring it into phase with most of Western Europe. There were riots and the mob cried "give us back our 11 days"; the naive thought that their lives had been shortened by so long, but the more prosaic objected to paying taxes for a government financial year 11 days shorter than usual, so it was extended. Since then the "Taxation Year" has dated from March 25 plus 11 days, which is April 5.

There are various other "odd dates" for similar reasons: perhaps the classic one is that Tsarist Russia used the Julian calendar up to 1917, by which time it was 13 days out of phase. As a result Russians celebrate the anniversary of the October Revolution in November.

Yours faithfully,
HUGH PESKETT,
Genealogist to Deben Ancestry Research,
67 Parchment Street,
Winchester.

Why April 5?
From Mr Hugh Peskett

Sir, To answer Mr D. F. Pow (January 26), this is a consequence of reorganization of the calendar in 1752. Before that the English calendar had two anomalies: firstly the New Year was reckoned from March 25—on the logic that the Christian Era should be calculated from the anniversary of the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary; secondly it used the Julian calendar rather than the Gregorian. The Julian calendar included a mis-calculation of Leap Years which was a cumulative error of three days every 400 years; by 1752 the error was 11 days. Up to 1752

aspects of the Novel
From Mr Wilfred De'Ath

Sir, How strange that Mr Anthony Powell should consider that the novels of E. M. Forster evince bland self satisfaction! Is this not a classic instance of the pot describing the kettle as black?

Yours faithfully,
WILFRED DE'AETH,
Regina Court,
40 Fitzjohn's Avenue, NW1

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Bullock Report: proposals for worker directors

From Mr Giles Radice, MP for Chester-le-Street (Labour)

Sir, We can all agree with the President of the Engineering Employers Federation's call for a calm and constructive debate, though it is a pity that some leading industrialists despatched to demonstrate the Bullock Report before it was published. The Government's state-

ance of a system of works councils in all industries above a certain size and workforce: these councils to be democratically elected by the workers, whether members of unions or not. The acceptance of a code of practice by industry to establish a form of workers' participation should be the first step: legislation could follow if necessary. There is precedence here, e.g. Ernest Bevin did this under the Essential Work Order early in the last war. Unfortunately, it lapsed after the war. If works councils dealing with real issues of common concern in industry are accepted, then there is no reason why representatives of these works councils should not sit on boards of companies, or on board committees, with useful effect.

It does not seem to have been understood so far that Bullock is recommending an optional and not a mandatory system of worker directors. The option is dependent on a majority of all employees in a company of 2,000 workers and over voting in favour—and that majority has to represent at least a third of all employees.

The Bullock formula of boardroom representation also leaves room both for "participation agreements" between management and unions, and for forms of participation at lower levels which Bullock sees as essential.

So we are not discussing a rigid and imposed way of doing things but flexible arrangements, which offer a range of options and rely on consent.

But whatever the final details of the Government's proposals there should be a full discussion on a number of issues, including elections of worker directors, unitary + two-tier boards, and the 2X + Y distribution of directors.

We need carefully but steadily to increase industrial democracy. Employees, through their own organizations (which represent over 70 per cent of all employees in companies employing 2,000 workers and over), ought to have a say in the strategic decisions which affect their lives.

Britain is a long way behind West Germany and the Scandinavian countries and a determined and concerted strategy, which will enable industry to utilize the energies of all employees, will be required if we are to catch up.

GILES RADICE,
House of Commons.

may be left of it, by putting the company into liquidation. This sanction (already hedged by significant legal safeguards relating to redundancy) is, apart from anything else, an essential counterbalance to the right of trade unions to procure the withdrawal of labour in the circumstances of a trade dispute.

Few would now suggest that this right should be curtailed, and the fact that it would be impracticable to do so only serves to underline the need for the counter balance. That shareholders are sufficiently responsible to refrain from exercising their capital except in extreme circumstances is no argument for abolishing that power.

Early in the majority report, emphasis is placed on the TUC view that capital and labour are equal partners in the modern enterprise. It is only by reading nearly to the end that one appreciates the significance of the qualifying words "in particular British version of".

What matters is that directors, managers, investors and workers should become a team profitable to themselves and the country. Quick, imposed change will not achieve this. Moderate but definite progress has a chance.

KENNETH LEWIS,
House of Commons.

Yours faithfully,

PETER ANDRAS,
1 Seafreight Inn,
Fleet Street, EC4.

From Dr D. B. Southern

Sir, In the discussion of the Bullock Report and workers' participation in industry, two misconceptions are prominent:

1. The West German system of co-determination is held up as a model for imitation by, among others, Mr Callaghan and Mr Steel. Employee participation in Germany was grafted on to a highly developed system of labour law and courts, and could not operate without it. Disputes arising under the co-determination procedures established by law are referred to labour courts for resolution. In Britain the extension of the law to embrace industrial relations has been resisted by above all the trade unions, so that industrial relations in this country have developed outside the law.

To advocate the adoption of the German system of co-determination divorced from its essential constituent, legal control of industrial relations, is illogical. One cannot secure the advantages of an institution without satisfying the necessary condition of its successful operation.

2. Great Britain is credited with having introduced the system of co-determination into West German industry after 1945. However, the foundations had been laid much earlier. The two-board system grew up in the nineteenth century to give German banks and state institutions a say in the running of companies, in whose financing they were directly engaged: the introduction of law into industrial relations was accepted in the nineteenth century; labour courts and works councils were established outside the 1920s.

After 1945, British occupation authorities engaged in the short-lived policy of Demontage, whereby reparations were extracted by the dismantling and removal of the plant of Ruhr industries. To compensate workers for the loss of their jobs, they were given a place on an enlarged works council.

Around the policy of Demontage has been erected. Adenauer introduced employee representation on the supervisory boards in the coal and steel industry in 1951, in a bid to secure workers' acceptance of German membership of the European Coal and Steel Community, in which their trade unions were imposed.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID SOUTHERN,
Faculty of Social Sciences,
Durham University,
Canterbury, Kent.

From Mr P. J. Andras

Sir, In your leading article this morning (January 27) about the Bullock majority report on trade union participation, you point out that no one in his right mind will put new money in the hands of Bullock boards because they will neither be united nor qualified to use it. Another reason is that he would never be entitled to get the money back.

A significant aspect of the Bullock majority proposals is the virtual abolition of the few powers which shareholders possess to control the activities of their boards, including their ultimate sanction of withdrawing their money, or what

Meant by "good faith"?

Can we therefore expect those exercising only 28 per cent of all available board room votes to claim a mandate?

Yours faithfully,

DR HORACE
Clinician and
shortages,
page 22

The Bank releases £365m as temporary aid for liquidity

By Whitmore
Special Correspondent

pressures that have been straining the system yesterday led the Bank of England to release, finally, a further 1 per cent. Special Deposits, about 100 points, look certain to result in a further drop in interest rates as the authorities had been for at the turn of the

month.

It was once again signalled that its discount market was a wish for no more moderate drop in its lending rate today, as its yield on three Treasury bills indicated.

"It could technically be

a further three-quarters

at the 124 per cent level

would be the second

this size," a conservative

and would be further

to financial markets."

But the authorities

are forced to change

uncertainties over interest rates

in past week or so,

main reasons why the

deal has been kept to

rate of reduction in

rates and yields on

short-term securities fall only

in the opening months

of the year have been, first, to

give it scope to attract foreign

money and replenish the

depleted reserves and, second,

to prevent any need for a fresh

rise in interest rates should

negotiations on the next stage

of wage policy run into diffi-

culties.

The pressure on the first

count has to some extent been

removed, however, by the

heavy inflow of overseas funds

into the country during recent

weeks. This includes a sub-

stantial quantity that is believed

to have found its way into the

Government's record £125m

long-dated "tap" stock.

Treasury bills offered

for sale last week and declared

exhausted soon after the open-

ing of business yesterday morn-

ing.

After the longer-term Euro-

dollar funding announced on

Monday, moreover, the Govern-

ment will now almost certainly

keep to see the inward flow

of hot money heavily re-

duced. Given, though, that it

appears unwilling, largely for

extra considerations, to see

this money deterred by allowing

the value of sterling to

appreciate on the foreign

exchange, its other major

weapon is to allow interest

rates, which remain exception-

ally high by international stan-

dards, to fall.

It remains to be seen, more-

over, whether the Bank will

also wish to call in additional

Special Deposits once the

pressures are over.

give it scope to attract foreign

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long-dated "tap" stock.

Treasury bills offered

for sale last week and declared

exhausted soon after the open-

ing of business yesterday morn-

ing.

After the longer-term Euro-

dollar funding announced on

Monday, moreover, the Govern-

ment will now almost certainly

keep to see the inward flow

of hot money heavily re-

duced. Given, though, that it

appears unwilling, largely for

extra considerations, to see

this money deterred by allowing

the value of sterling to

appreciate on the foreign

exchange, its other major

weapon is to allow interest

rates, which remain exception-

ally high by international stan-

dards, to fall.

It remains to be seen, more-

over, whether the Bank will

also wish to call in additional

Special Deposits once the

pressures are over.

One way the Government has tried to keep interest rates up so far has been through large issues of Government stock. And it has been demand for this stock at what have been considered artificially high yield levels, together with the seasonal heavy demand for funds to meet tax payments, that has put tremendous pressure on the monetary system.

Yesterday's Bank of England assistance to the discount market, for instance, was again a record and believed to have been in the region of £1,000m.

The release of a further 1 per cent of Special Deposits will return about £365m to the banks and will take the pressure off their reserve asset ratios. These have almost certainly been down to close to their statutory minimums of 12½ per cent.

The release of the additional 1 per cent of special deposits follows the repayment of 2 per cent of special deposits 10 days ago. But the latest release is only intended to provide temporary help over a difficult period and will be recalled on March 10.

It remains to be seen, more-

over, whether the Bank will also wish to call in additional Special Deposits once the

pressures are over.

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Even the most pessimistic are

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there is now a "bull" market.

Financial Editor, page 23

Market reports, page 24

David Mott writes: Further signs that interest rates should continue to fall brought a strong advance for both equities and longer dated gilts on the London stock market yesterday.

For gilts the spur was the early exhaustion of the £1,250m long "rap" and the Bank of England's decision to "release" another one per cent of special deposits. By the close most long dates were between three quarters and a full point better with the "rap" itself up seven-eighths to 397.8. Bank

stocks, after a bright start, were selling brought about by the tight money conditions and by the close were all-square or just one-sixteenth ahead.

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Financial Editor, page 23

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NEB takes share in underwater technology

By Peter Hill
Industrial Editor

The National Enterprise Board has paid £50,000 to enter the developing world market for underwater technology. For the first time the much criticized NEB has joined a private sector company to invest jointly in a third party venture.

Following an approach from the privately controlled Peckham Group of Middlesbrough, the NEB and Peckham have each paid £50,000 which will give each of them about 45 per cent of the equity in the small Barrow-in-Furness company of Sub Sea Surveys.

The enlarged company will acquire and operate a remote controlled unmanned underwater craft—Consul 2—which has been developed by the British Aircraft Corporation at Filton.

Last night Mr Nigel Moir, chairman of the Peckham Group, said that his company had approached the NEB because of its confidence in the future potential of the Barrow company.

"We also wanted a relatively disinterested partner yet one with substantial muscle. At present our company is likely to be the most significant growth in the development of specialized vessels and equipment for the inspection of underwater oil pipelines and offshore structures."

"The acquisition will provide the United Kingdom with a capability for the development of technology associated with both oil and exploration for minerals on the seabed," he said.

Sub Sea Surveys is claimed to be technically the most advanced vessel of its type commercially available.

SSS has contracts with companies in the United States, Holland, Norway and the United Kingdom, and its managing director is Mr Roger Chapman.

Mr Moir and Mr G. J. Connolly, the NEB's northern region director, are to join the board.

The proposals permit television and radio advertising and allow members to contact non-clients, but not to make specific investment recommendations.

Discussions with the Office of Fair Trading on the new rules will be taking place shortly.

After the collapse of several stockbrokers and as part of its general efforts to tighten up surveillance procedures, the Stock Exchange is today circulating member firms with a discussion paper on the minimum liquidity margins member firms should be required to maintain.

Essentially the aim of the exercise is to provide the council with a link between its company and Pooclain. Both are substantial European organizations; each a leader in its own field—JCB in excavator loaders and Pooclain in crawler excavators.

Broadly speaking, the proposals under discussion centre on ways of clamping down on what may count as approved assets, which will mean a change in the methods by which liquidity margins are set.

Among the other proposals

Price Commission sees inflation at peak of 19 per cent in late spring

By Ronald Embley

Price rises are increasing and the rate will probably peak in late spring at an annual rate of 19 per cent according to the Price Commission's latest quarterly report.

Yesterday, Sir Arthur Cockfield, the Commission's chairman, said: "We must live through a hard winter on prices but if we hold fast, we will come out into a period in which inflation will come down again."

Sir Arthur said that during the period dealt with in the report, September to November 1976, price rises as notified to the Commission by category I companies were running at a rate of about £1,000m a month.

During the quarter the commission's own index of price inflation was running at 5.4 per cent. While some of this was attributable to oil price rises the underlying six-month trend showed inflation running at about 19 per cent per annum.

In its previous report the commission had said that the 13 per cent rate of inflation prevailing in 1976 was "thoroughly unsatisfactory". Sir Arthur said yesterday that the present rate of 15 per cent "shows no signs of improving" and the indications available for December and January revealed no easement in the position.

There were contradictory influences affecting the rate of inflation, Sir Arthur said. The decline in the value of sterling was "inevitable retribution" for domestic inflation in 1974 and 1975. Although the rate had improved recently the depreciation of the currency since September had not yet been fully reflected in retail prices.

The full effect will have worked through the system by early summer, Sir Arthur said, provided there was no further deterioration in the exchange rate.

Last summer's relaxation of the price code was difficult to assess in terms of its effect on inflation, Sir Arthur said. However, "in theory" there should be many more price increases to come but by early summer "we should have seen the end".

On the positive side the present pay policy had not been fully reflected in price rise notifications received by the Commission. Reduced pay settlements will be reflected in a lowered rate of increase in labour costs.

Similarly the present tight financial and monetary controls make it more difficult for companies to pass on price rises to the public, thus reducing the rate of price inflation.

* Price Commission Report September to November. HMSO £1.65.

As a result of these under-

CCA 'gives auditors wider area of discretion'

By Our Financial Staff

Introducing the current cost system of inflation accounting would materially increase the number of areas in which an auditor must use his discretion in determining whether the figures given provide a "true and fair view" of the state of affairs of the company, according to the auditing practices committee of the Consultative Committee of Accountancy Bodies.

But the amounts to be transferred to or from revaluation reserve under the Morpeth system as set out in ED 18 will not necessarily be susceptible to audit, the committee points out, since the assumptions on which these transfers are to be made "are largely matters of policy which depend on the discretion of directors".

These comments are set out in a booklet published today, *The Audit Implications of ED 18—Current Cost Accounting*, designed to instruct auditors on how the main problem areas of auditing current cost accounts should be approached. Also it could encourage them to develop the revised procedures they will need for the audit of current cost accounts, and provide background information to enable those accountants who comment on ED 18 to take account of the related auditing aspects.

Recognizing that their inability to assess the amounts transferred to and from revaluation reserves "may be considered unsatisfactory", the auditors suggest that the relevant accounting standard may incorporate procedures to be followed to arrive at the transfer once CCA has been established for some time.

But in the meantime, they say, this limitation as regards the auditor's work will need to be appreciated. They call for an updated statutory definition of which profits/reserves are available for distribution, pointing out that such a revised definition is already overdue, and the need for it under CCA is greater still.

* The Audit Implications of ED 18—Current Cost Accounting. Available from the Publications Department, PO Box 433, Moorgate Place, London, EC2P 2BZ, price £1.50, including postage.

GOVERNMENT'S EXPENDITURE PLANS

North Sea oil the base for industrial recovery, not the solution

continued from page one

PUBLIC EXPENDITURE BY ECONOMIC CATEGORY

£ million at 1976 Survey

	1971-72	1972-73	1973-74	1974-75	1975-76	1976-77	1977-78	1978-79
Current expenditure:								
Wages and salaries	13,252	13,511	14,397	15,044	15,566	15,946	15,910	15,801
Other current expenditure on goods and services	7,638	7,695	8,244	8,001	8,273	8,670	8,245	8,215
Grants	1,235	1,203	1,263	1,257	1,133	1,248	1,215	1,214
Current grants to persons	9,264	10,161	10,146	10,625	11,267	12,520	12,910	13,015
Current grants to private bodies	717	765	840	884	954	1,016	984	906
Current grants abroad	378	396	518	500	457	733	539	1,071
Total	32,204	34,600	36,392	39,196	41,030	42,193	41,959	42,011
Capital expenditure:								
Net domestic fixed capital formation:								
In stocks of stocks	6,003	6,094	6,499	6,565	6,495	6,140	5,969	4,705
Capital grants	104	112	47	32	64	32	57	47
Net lending to the private sector	1,492	1,308	1,363	1,275	1,133	1,248	1,185	1,214
Net lending to overseas governments	1,624	1,814	214	251	146	300	750	300
Drawings from United Kingdom sub-subsidiaries and associations: lending	27	48	68	61	116	99	111	111
Other net lending and investment abroad	39	600	725	711	687	599	599	599
Capital contributions on corporate sector (net rest)	71	61	69	259	434	23	480	480
Capital transfers abroad	—	—	153	156	13	5	5	5
Total	10,359	10,869	10,177	11,118	10,766	9,703	7,593	7,914
Contingency reserve	—	—	—	—	—	630	590	590
Total	43,463	45,589	46,769	50,936	51,816	51,898	50,202	50,202
Date interest:								
net basis	1,075	1,013	1,354	1,055	1,128	1,800	2,300	2,300
national income accounts basis	4,688	4,671	5,578	5,699	5,472	6,500	7,300	7,400

PUBLIC EXPENDITURE BY PROGRAMME

£ million at 1976 Survey

	1971-72	1972-73	1973-74	1974-75	1975-76	1976-77	1977-78	1978-79
1. Defence	5,066	5,304	5,469	5,365	5,548	5,821	5,644	5,521
2. Overseas aid and other overseas services	765	932	990	935	797	1,082	1,232	1,232
3. Agriculture, fisheries, food and forestry	845	758	855	1,708	1,605	1,008	551	551
4. Trade, industry and employment	973	544	345	1,145	70	29	29	29
5. Government lending to nationalised industries	1,693	2,147	3,144	3,390	2,938	3,045	2,143	2,143
6. Roads and transport	2,110	2,154	2,249	2,241	2,611	2,325	2,325	2,325
7. Housing	2,730	2,524	2,713	2,152	4,680	4,286	4,286	4,286
8. Other environmental services	2,209	2,425	2,823	2,561	2,612	2,569	2,569	2,569
9. Environment and planning	1,203	1,463	1,531	1,800	1,739	1,946	1,946	1,946
10. Environment and libraries, science and arts	6,699	6,372	7,563	7,316	7,493	7,519	7,307	7,307
11. Health and personal social services	2,120	2,753	3,031	3,235	3,235	3,235	3,235	3,235
12. Education	5,242	5,927	5,927	5,927	10,299	11,116	11,226	11,226
13. Other public services	712	924	724	782	844	857	857	857
14. Common services	699	715	714	728	849	849	783	783
15. Northern Ireland	1,173	1,254	1,254	1,408	1,530	1,427	1,530	1,530
Total programmes	43,463	45,589	46,769	50,936	51,816	51,898	50,202	50,202
Contingency reserve	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	43,463	45,589	46,769	50,936	51,816	51,898	50,202	50,202
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Public Expenditure Plans

£ million at 1976 Survey

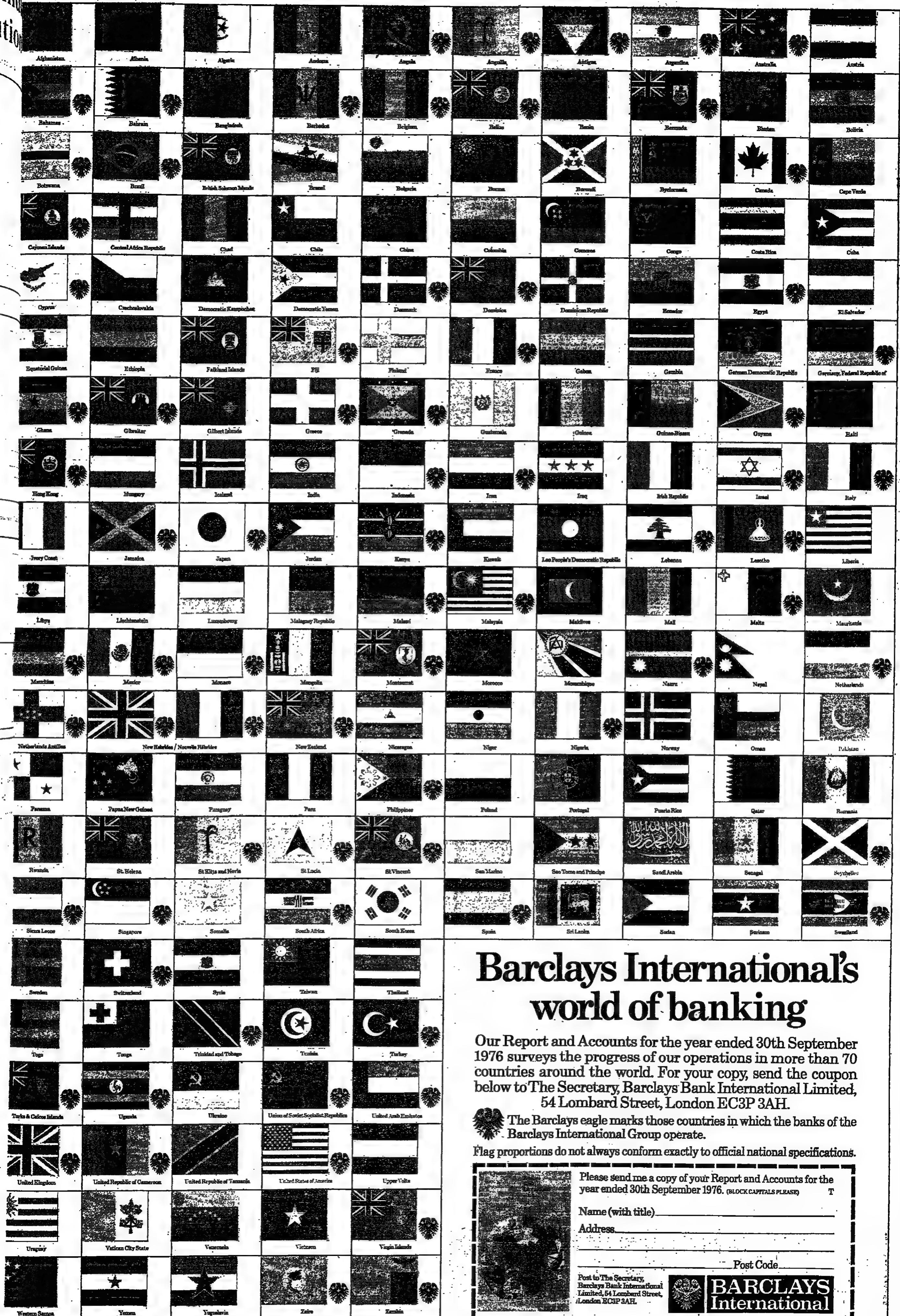
	1975-76	1976-77	1977-78	1978-79
Public expenditure by:				
Central government(1)	35,139	35,454	34,144(2)	34,144(2)
Public corporations other than local authorities	1,241	1,419	1,206	1,206
Local authorities	15,436	15,005	14,102	14,102
Total expenditure on programmes	51,816	51,898	49,557	49,557
Contingency reserve	—	1,128	1,200	2,300
Total debt interest(3)	—	—	—	—
Total public expenditure(4)	52,944	53,696	51,802	51,802

(1) Includes government loans and capital grants to the nationalised industries and the cost of child benefit scheme in 1977-78 and 1978-79, measured as associated reduction in child tax allowances.

(2) Net of £500 million for proceeds of sale of shares in the British Rail Company.

(3) The figures for debt interest in this table are on the new basis explained in paragraph 4.

(4) Total public expenditure, excluding government loans and capital grants to the nationalised industries, the receipts from the sales of British Petroleum and the cost of debt interest in the four years is £503 billion, £504 billion, £504 billion and £505 billion.



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BARCLAYS
International

Results of bids for oil licences next week

By Our Energy Correspondent

Results of applications for new oil exploration and production licences in British waters are expected to be announced by the Department of Energy next Thursday.

Seventy-one blocks were offered, of which 50 attracted bids from 53 consortia or individual companies. According to industry sources only about 15 blocks were of great interest to the large oil companies.

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There was also keen bidding for several blocks in shallow water areas on the coast in the English Channel. But the acreage in mid-Channel and in the Western Approaches was largely ignored.

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BONC and the United Kingdom Offshore Operators Committee have drawn up a standard form of agreement for state participation in new licences, which will be available to all successful bidders.

Short-time at Krupp

More than 5,000 of the 11,500 workers at the Fried. Krupp Hüttenwerk AG steelworks at Rheinhausen will go on some form of short-time work during February and March, a company spokesman announced in Bochum. The planned shortage reflects the widespread retrenchment in Europe affecting profile steels.

New Chloride factory

Chloride Lorival, a member of the Chloride battery group, is to set up a film factory at Bury which is expected to create 100 new jobs. The company, with headquarters at Bolton, is to take over the Bury factory in the spring.

Conserve oil and find alternatives or face shortages, OECD says

By Roger Vieilveye

Unless fresh efforts are made to conserve energy and develop alternatives to oil the world could face higher prices or shortages of oil or both, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development says in a report.

According to the publication *World Energy Outlook*, if present trends continue, OECD demand for imported oil could rise from 23.4 million barrels a day in 1975 to 35 million barrels a day by 1985.

This level of demand when added to oil required by other countries might exceed the quantity that exporting countries, especially those in the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries, would be willing to make available.

Since conservation and the expansion of alternatives to oil require long lead times, the report argues that new policies must be adopted within the next year or so, if they are to influence events in the mid-1980s.

The report suggests ways in which the industrialized nations could avoid a new energy

crisis. On the conservation side it says that governments should make "firm and our-spoken" political commitments to the need to save energy as "significant potential exists for further reducing future energy demand".

Other measures could be taken immediately. Pricing energy at world levels—a reference to countries whose domestic production enables them to keep prices down—would have an immediate effect through market forces.

There was also a need for selected mandatory measures such as speed limits which "could heighten public awareness and create the psychological climate necessary to reinforce market effects". Increasing the efficiency of cars, incentives for investment in energy-saving equipment and higher insulation standards would also have a beneficial effect, says the report.

It also makes a number of controversial suggestions for increasing energy production. The granting of new leases and oil production licences should be accelerated for the North Sea, Alaska, and the United States continental shelf.

Moderation of environmental restraints on new energy development, particularly for coal and nuclear power, are recommended combined with promotion of coal.

The report claims that the rise in price of oil will be justified and the rise is unjustified and unfair.

The OECD is heading for oil consumption of 50.3 million barrels a day by 1985 of which 35 million barrels would be imported. The report claims its programme could hold consumption to 42.7 million barrels and actually reduce the level of imports by 4 per cent.

World Energy Outlook, OECD Paris, \$12.90 or £5.90.

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Once the companies have been notified of results of this fifth round of licensing, they will have to negotiate with the British National Oil Corporation, which will be the 51 per cent majority shareholder in each new licence.

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BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Changing gear on interest rates

day's news of the Government's funding in the gilt market as it that sterling could be finally relieved the back seat when it looks for reasons for to ask the rate of fall in

today the rapid ex- if the long "tax", and d better that this was to a further heavy overseas money, winced any remaining the Bank now had to allow the rates to proceed more quickly than envisaged.

However, still left the two minds as to what the authorities would do and which end of the week was the more attractor in the week the had generally been the short end. Yesterday much the re-

iment being put forward switching long was seen might well go down fairly fast but as far as some holding—and certainly as to leave much a short gilt market already been moving ahead of events.

inter argument has the authorities will g a losing battle if ot allow short rates significantly further and he extent that they and direct "how lows in a monetary ext and protect themself by negotiation they would do better trade on restraining id of the market and this a more meaningful move.

In the FT Government index is back a whisker of last "high" and the ker continues to be in its coat-tails into sound for the year.



Lord Inchcape, chairman of Inchcape: robust trading performance

albeit at a more subdued pace, seems fairly certain, but with the big profit bounce already under its belt Inchcape's share price performance could now be relatively subdued.

Interim 1976-77 (1975-76)
Capitalization £247m
Pre-tax profits £22.9m (£17.3m)
Dividend gross 10.5p (5p)

British Sugar Financing expansion

British Sugar's strategy at the moment is directed towards raising sugar production capacity from 950,000 tonnes annually to 1.25m by 1980, and then, weather permitting, being able to take advantage of this with some splendid beet crops.

At present, though, the beet harvest is the problem, though one can see from the 1975-76 figures what BSC is aiming at. For using only two thirds of existing capacity it pushed up profits by almost 90 per cent to £12m, much better than the £12m indicated at the interim stage due to lower than expected costs and the better competitive position which emerged in the second half after the Government's equalization scheme had ended.

But BSC needs profits like this and more if it is to cope comfortably with an investment programme which, for example, will absorb some £30m in the current year. Cash flow will contribute fairly handsomely to this even allowing for the poor 1976-77 crop, but BSC has also arranged £15m of medium-term finance, apparently most of it from Finsbury.

Meanwhile, the shares at 340p, up 15p on the results, are yielding only 4% per cent, a reflection of the fact that the dividend is now covered over seven times and there is not much BSC can do about that given that the Government Sugar Board holds just over 30 per cent of the equity and would obviously not be happy about a right issue on an acquisition which would dilute the state. Final : 1975-76 (1974-75)

Capitalization £34m
Sales £207m (£115.5m)
Pre-tax profits £14.3m (£7.6m)
Earnings per share 69.4p (£38.8p)
Dividend gross 14.29p (£12.994p)

Fitch Lovell Improving margins

The improvement in manufacturing margins at Fitch Lovell evident in the second half of last year continued in the first six months of the current financial year. And with profits before interest and exceptional items up 60 per cent from £1.35m to £2.17m, the division is also clearly benefiting from consumer trading down to its piles and cooked meat.

Margins have also apparently improved in the retailing side (profits up from £461,000 to £645,000), and it is the potential for further improvement on margins and the full digestion of David Greig that could provide some solid profits growth, although Fitch Lovell has a reputation for highly competitive pricing in the retailing field.

The overall results were in line with market expectations, although the profits split provided a few variations. The poultry side had been expected to show a decline after the very buoyant first half last year and increasing feed costs, but the drop from 51.08m to 56.01m was more than some had expected. However, unlike last year, poultry prices have remained firm since Christmas which is a good pointer.

The shares have been very strong lately, up 9 per cent relative to the market as a whole, partly on recurring bid talk. In the absence of that materialising, the shares at 36p, up 15p yesterday, are reasonably priced with a prospective yield of about 8% and profits in excess of 7.2m in sight for the full year.

Interim 1976-77 (1975-76)
Capitalization £27.1m
Sales £205.7m (£175.8m)
Pre-tax profits £3.41m (£2.45m)
Dividend gross 1.76p (1.6p)

Plessey's third quarter pre-tax profits are a fifth higher at 29.6m and keep up the recovery already under way in the previous four quarters. Yet this was some way behind outside

Business Diary: Whither Sir Douglas? • Textiles' MacArthur

Douglas Allen, head of the Home Office, to do aches the statutory of 60 this December.

leaves a key job in state corporations, falls vacant in when the term of e present chairman executive, Sir William Ires.

Allen is having difficult finding full-time the demands Post no less than one and one retire last few months end of the year left of all but one full-time board

m has already had office extended by so the appearance glas Allen on the is that timely; it is the salary bicker characterized the s to state corpora

head of the Home e carries a salary compared with the before waivers) paid m. As a former civil Douglas should have had pension to fall oo...

es at the Post Office at a fitting time. It the chosen vehicle enting with worker in the boardroom c apart, plans are r the introduction rectors.

worker

Textile Confederation found itself a

new director. The organization which represents both employers and the unions has settled for an advertising man.

He is Ian MacArthur, former Tory MP for Perth and East Dunbartonshire between 1959 and 1974 and now director of administration with J. Walter Thompson.

MacArthur's links with the textile industry have hitherto been restricted to contact with textile organizations in his former constituency and in his advertising work.

MacArthur has been an opposition spokesman on Scottish affairs and a member of the whip's office.

He will join the BTC at the end of March when the organization holds its annual general meeting and could hardly come in at a more important time for the textile industry.

Renegotiation is due in Geneva of the Gatt Multi-Fibre Arrangement, designed to ease trade between the developed world and the less developed world.

Britain and the EEC want big changes, although the Americans and the Japanese don't.

The BTC has been without a full-time head since the departure of Clifford Jupp last summer, although Smart Douglas, director of the British Man-Made Fibres Federation, has held the fort.

Trib lib

Dr Peter Jost, who is taking over from George Brozen as president of the Institution of Production Engineers, is the man who popularized tribology or the science of lubrication.

He chaired the then Department of Trade and Industry's committee on tribology, whose last report appeared in 1973. The cost of the committee and the subsequent establishment of three tribology research centres cost about £15m in public money, but the application of the new knowledge may have saved industry about £30m.

Jost, a director of many technology-based companies would like to see Whitehall more active in fostering the application of one field of new knowledge developed in another, as

hand at looking for metals, this time for Shell's Billiton subsidiary based in The Hague.

Bowers has been responsible for finding the commercial oil fields for the Shell/Essoc group. Without doubt his greatest achievement was finding the Brent field, the largest oil reservoir in United Kingdom waters, and following this up with a successful bid of £21m for a nearby block in the British government's oil price auction.

Bowers admits he spends most of his time behind a desk at the Shell Centre but he was aboard the rig Staffa when the Brent discovery was made.

His subsequent visits into the North Sea coincided with two other oil discoveries by the group with the result that for a time the men on the rigs began to look on him as an omen of good luck.

for example the employment of the microcomputer in important manufacturing industries.

He would also like to see professional engineering institutions cooperating more than they do, and he cites the cooperation between engineering's big two, his own IPE and the Institution of Mechanical Engineers.

New dynasty?

Octogenarian Percy Bilton is back in the lime light this year after once more taking over the reins of the industrial property development group that bears his name.

After half a century in property Bilton does not have much time for the "whiz-kid who descended from Mars or Jupiter or somewhere" and who, after building international development companies with the aid of open-handed bank finance, wound up in the bankruptcy courts in the property crash of 1973.

Bilton feels that the com-

IBM suits the action to the word

Word processing has already come a long way from the days when the phrase was synonymous merely with automatic typewriting. As well as automatic typewriting (or high-quality automatic printing), it now embraces information storage and retrieval, text editing, minicomputer control, video displays and telecommunications.

But the forecast (by the suppliers) that the market was about to take off in a big way, an annually recurring phenomenon for some years now, have not materialized. Though in many ways the office environment was ripe for new techniques—growing costs and numbers of office staff, increasing volumes of paperwork, low capital investment per worker compared with manufacturing industry, and so on—the potential productivity gains were outweighed by the inertia of traditional practices in all but the largest of organizations.

For many years word processing (excluding for the moment dictation equipment, copiers and facsimile) was based on automatic typewriters, which gradually acquired larger and more convenient magnetic memories and an increased ability to manipulate or edit the text.

Over the past two years the

technology has advanced rapidly, as the power of mini-computers and microprocessors and the ease of use of video displays have been harnessed to the processing of words as well as data. Many companies (some old, some new, some now out of business) have entered the market, still awaiting clearance for take-off.

Meanwhile, IBM, the grandfather of word processing, had remained aloof from this particular brand of high-technology, small-size, video-based system. The corporation had a range of advanced magnetic-card typewriters, and had provided word processing for users of its large System 360 computers (one of its small System 32 also) but had not ventured into the new generation of word processors.

Not that, is, until this week. Simultaneous announcements in the United States and Europe on Wednesday revealed the birth of the IBM Office System 6, a ready-made family of new-style "information processors".

Among the features of the new machines are the use of magnetic cards and magnetic "floppy discs" (as used in existing IBM typewriters and computers) for information storage; a small video display to guide the operator and show the typing/editing as it takes place; and the company's ingenious ink-jet printer for the production of the final document.

The new range appears to reflect, in short, its parentage which is IBM's general business systems group, formed in 1975 to bring together office products and small-computer divisions. Though these divisions retain their separate developments—the System 6 is specifically from the office-products division—the technologies are drawing closer together.

In setting up its general business systems group, IBM was preparing for what it saw as the future pattern of office information-handling systems. This would be marked by the increasing use of microelectronics and computer technologies, and increasing integration of the previously separate techniques of handling data, text, graphics and voice communications.

This week's announcement is a pointer to these future changes.

So far the word or information processors represent a combination of data-processing and text-processing technologies. And, as has happened with data processing, the linking of separate locations by telecommunications is now happening with text processing.

The ink-jet printer is both a word processing output device and, potentially, an "electronic mail" terminal; it can be used for the delivery of letters or other documents over telephone lines.

It is indeed approaching the "intelligent copier" which, according to Quantum Science Corporation, will play an important role in the convergence of technologies in future business information handling.

This represents a merger of computer and copier technologies, and eventually will include graphics as well as text.

Thus the companies that will be best placed as the market for integrated office system develops will be those that have various combinations of data-processing, text-preparation, copier/duplicating, facsimile and office communications products.

The leaders clearly include IBM, Rank Xerox, Burroughs, Redecron, Kalle, Infotron, Philips and Olivetti.

The total market in western Europe for office technology equipment (text preparation, copier/duplicators, microfilm and office communications) in 1976 amounted to about \$3,300m and, according to Quantum Science estimates, will grow by 17 per cent a year to reach about \$7,400m by 1981.

Of that total, text preparation

equipment (typewriters, dictation equipment and text-editing equipment) accounted for \$840m in 1976, rising to an estimated \$1,370m by 1981.

Within text preparation, in turn, text editing equipment accounted for 10.8 per cent of the 1976 total. An annual growth of almost 21 per cent (about twice that of text preparation equipment as a whole) should raise this proportion to 19 per cent of the total by 1981.

IBM's new information processors are not cheap; they range from about £1,600 to about £22,500, or monthly rentals of about £300 to £640. But they will make possible powerful new information handling systems which can combine data from computer files with the text of letters, reports and other documents.

Combined with the use of magnetic-card typewriters, and long-distance telecommunications, they can now give the large or medium-sized organization a more flexible, "distributed" pattern of word processing. Again there is the analogy with computing.

Kenneth Owen
Technology Correspondent

Ronald Emmer

Lager brews profits and problems

Britain's brewers are in the process of spending more than £400m in the next four years, half of it on increasing or improving production facilities.

When Allied Breweries announced its £164m investment plan recently they were hailed by unions and government as an example of the level of capital spending necessary from industry to restore the nation's fortunes and reduce unemployment. Yet it is surprising that the brewers' capital spending spree, not because of its magnitude, but because it is taking place when the beer market is stagnant.

The growing public taste for lager beer, however, left the brewing industry with two costly problems. It has insufficient capacity to meet today's demand and it is not possible to brew true lager in existing facilities used for producing top fermented traditional British ales. Hence the capital investment spree.

When announcing Allied's plans Keith Showring, the chairman, said that much of the group's capital investment in production facilities would be on expanding its existing lagering facilities at Alton, Wrexham and Burton.

In many ways Allied is typical of the industry. Its Skol brand is thought to have about 17 per cent of the lager market, yet Skol accounts for only 17 per cent of the group's total beer output. If Allied is to maintain or improve its market share as lager consumption grows it will need increased production facilities.

A decade ago lager accounted for approximately 2 per cent of the total United Kingdom beer market. By 1971 it had a 10 per cent foothold which had risen to 19 per cent at the end of 1975. Most observers believe that lager now accounts for about one in every four pints drunk in Britain.

Eyebrows were raised only three years ago when Bass Charrington suggested that lager would take a third of the market by the turn of the decade. Today most brewery boardrooms are exercised by the problem of whether lager will be taking nearer 40 or 50 per cent of the market by the mid-1980s.

Many reasons have been offered for the rapid rise of lager. It is a "young" drink, preferred by that age group with the largest disposable incomes, it is "European" and just as with vodka in the spirits sector, its growth can be partly attributed to the rising public preference for the bland drink with mixers.

It has also lost its original feminine image and has ceased

giving Watney not only a premium lager but the extra margin gained from brewing it in Britain as opposed to importing it as many of the other groups with their premium lagers.

The recent takeover of the Lübeckerbrau marketing agency in Britain by Allied has left the industry wondering how long it will be before Allied begins brewing that premium lager.

Bass Charrington, the lager market leader with its Bass and Tamm's brands, is the only major brewer not investing heavily in lager production capacity. This is not because it has lost faith in the blond beer, merely that it has already invested heavily in capacity sufficient to meet demand well into the 1980s.

Indeed, when the Runcorn brewery was built in the early seventies extra buildings were put up to house new lager-making facilities when required. Some of those "holes" are now being equipped at what, to the rest of the industry, must seem very low cost.

Not all the new plants being built are purely devoted to the growing demand for lager. Many of the small regional brewers are expanding the production of their traditional sales. To them the cost of investing in lager making plant would be prohibitive.

Both the Courage plant at Reading and S & N's plant in the North-east will be largely ale plants. Yet few people building a brewery today, certainly not the nationwide coverage.

Investment in the next three years is designed to meet the seemingly inexorable growth in total beer demand after new plant designed to increase margins. While the industry looks forward to a return of volume growth it is still uneasy. If the carefully and expensively created lager image crumbles Britain's brewers could be left with a lot of expensive capacity on their hands, and £200m is a large sum even in the brewing industry.

GALLAHER

1976 RESULTS

The Directors of Gallaher Limited announce the following figures, subject to audit, in respect of the year ended 31st December, 1976:

(All figures in £ millions)		1976	1975<br/

FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Stock markets

Index up 9 points and long gilts add £1

In a mood of euphoria, both equities and longer-dated gilts staged a strong advance on further signs that the economy is pulling away from its autumn crisis point.

The spur for long gilts was the Bank of England's release of a further 1 per cent of special deposits and the early exhaustion of the £1,250m "tap". Free from this restraint, there was a brisk demand and, by the close, many stocks were up to a full

McCleery L'Amie shares now 17p, are starting to attract attention. Assets are 36p a share, and the yield is 16.7 per cent on a dividend several times covered. After a big fall in profits in the half year to April 30, 1976, a good second-half recovery should mean annual profits of around £800,000 against £1.1m.

point better with the "tap" itself seven-eights better at £97.7.

Things were not so bright, though, at the shores and after a strong start, many stocks were hit by the tight money conditions and by the end were all-square or just a little ahead.

Equities were given an initial boost by Mr Jim Slater's bullish predictions—and helped by the deposit decisions and the hope of an MLR cut today—managed to hold on to the best part of the gains. The FT Index, 10.7

up at 2 pm, was 9.1 ahead at 390.7 at the close.

Though many gains were exaggerated by stock shortages, some ran impressively into double figures and were widely spread around the industrial sections. After hours, the White Paper on public expenditure and hints of tax cuts from the Chancellor in Parliament added several more pence to the lead.

The clearing banks made a comparatively modest response to the deposits release with National Westminster 5p to the good at 237p, Midland 3p better at 285p and Lloyds 2p firmer at 220p. But some of the merchant banks were in good form with Hammarskjöld 5p to 168p, Hill Samuel 4p to 90p, Kleinwort Benson 4p to 96p and Guinness Peat 5p to 175p. After interim figures, Manson Finance dipped 3p to 32p, Sydney Commercial Bank slipped 10p to 135p after a loss.

Among the "blue chips", the strongest performances came from Glaxo 4p and Beecham 3p, while Unilever 10p to the good, ICI 7p to 360p and BAT 7p to 257p.

The big engineers were also in demand with GKN gaining 14p to 294p, Hawker Siddeley 10p to 484p and Metal Box 10p to 278p. Among the second-liners, Associated Engineering added 4p to 98p after rejecting BR Pension Fund's approach. Buildings were again in good

form with PPE 5p to 136p, Barratt Developments 5p to 70p, International Timber 5p to 81p, AP Cement 4p to 185p, Tarmac 4p to 129p and Costain 4p to 152p, all prominent. Spurred by interest, oils were again well to the fore. With the help of United States buying, BP soared another 40p to a new "high" of 870p with Shell 165p up to 486p and Ultramar 8p ahead to 152p. Charterhall saw some speculative interest and closed 2p better at 241p.

Equity turnover on January 26 was £59.43m (13,186 bargains).

Active stocks yesterday, according to Exchange Telegraph, were ICI, BP, Shell, Beecham, BAT Dfds, Burmah, CKN, Town & City, Rank, Lucas, GEC, Charter Consolidated, Court auds, Grand Metropolitan, Marks & Spencer, Dunford & Elliott, Whitecroft, Hanson Trust, Trust Houses Forte, International Computers, MEPC and Reynolle Parsons.

A big comeback for Allied Textiles

By Adrienne Gleeson

Pre-tax profits of Allied Textiles made a big comeback in the year to September 30. They soared from £1.48m to £2.16m. This reflects some first half recovery and was achieved despite a small decline in turnover. It slipped to £23.6m from £24.91m, and reflected the elimination of significant areas of marginal trading.

Last year's improvement left pre-tax just short of the record achieved in 1972-73; and the directors are now, according to managing director, Mr Charles Russell Smith, looking for further progress. He says that the group has

continued its programme of re-equipping and that considerable progress has been made in bringing modernized capital intensive plant to high levels of efficiency.

With cash flow improving along with profits, and a big increase in stocks financed out of debtors and creditors, the balance sheet shows a big build-up of liquidity.

Net borrowings of £720,000 at end-September 1975 had changed into net cash of £710,000 by the 1976 balance sheet date, and cash in hand amounted to £1.21m.

The dividend, increased by the maximum to 8.5p a share gross, is covered three times by earnings.

Howard rise of 61 pc puts shares higher

After a big turnaround in first half year, growth at a cultural equipment manufacturer Howard Machinery continued in the second months to October 31. All same, pre-tax profits for year soared 61 per cent fr £2.03m to £3.26m.

The shares rose 3p yester to 40p to yield 7.4 per cent final gross dividend of 1.83 share is recommended to in 3.45p gross.

The keys to Howard's success are the overseas opera and the Howard Rotat plants in Britain which h undergone extensive reorgan

Foreign subsidiaries put up their sales by 44 per cent account for nearly half sales of £59.3m compared £54.2m.

Particularly strong performances came from France Germany and, to a lesser ex Italy. The French business, after a year strongly but wa then by summer drought, is now business is still slack, parred with a year ago.

Sales in the United Kingd and exports from the U Kingdom both showed 15 cent gain, but the troubl Howard Rotator are evid holding its performance back.

Although Howard's Rotat size enough to eliminate deficit of the first half apparently could have higher, and the division needs attention. The group ports that its productivity is a lot to be desired.

A lot yet to do before York is out of Wood

Quintin, York

(engineering and railw

stock) decided, yesterda

explain Wednesday's new

£171,000 to £443,000 in

and pre-tax losses of £15

six months to September 3

York is the old Mar

which once had a big S

Walker presence. It now ha

per cent of George Du

wherian Mr Oliver is still

interested, and 27 per cent

Maurice James Holdings,

itself is around 17 per

owned by London & Euro

Assets.

Mr L. M. James, the c

man, who also heads Ma

Buckley has resigned as a

tar and that Maurice Jea

Holdings has 15.1 per ce

York's shares.

The half year was not s

to be a good one. The gr

had sold investments in La

Securities, Insurance Gen

Mortgage Investment Tru

Lamont Holdings, and it

provided against a deposi

Guernsey Finance. But the n

subsidiary Macrost was i

ing the going rough.

Sadly, the half year

worse than feared. More p

sions were needed and Mar

is still losing money. How

management and policy

undergone drastic changes.

A further large los

made in the six mon

March 31, next. The size

depend on how soon the ga

expensive Cork Street leas

London can be disposed

of Maurice James officia

expenses are down. Pr

should reappear in 1977-78

Good start given to Borthwick 600

Up went the shares of

trader Thomas Borthwick

89p on news of a good

quarter and continuing ro

of a bid for FMC.

Dr William Bullen, chair

told the annual meeting

that the group's profit

for the year to September 30, 1976, was £1.65m, up from £1.15m in the previous year.

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ACCOUNT Days: Dealings began, Jan 17. Dealings end, Today. § Contango Day, Jan 31. Settlement Day, Feb 8

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

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1976/77	High	Gross	Div	Vid	High	Low	Company	Price Chg/pen 1% P/E	1976/77	High	Low	Company	Price Chg/pen 1% P/E	1976/77	High	Low	Company	Price Chg/pen 1% P/E	1976/77	High	Low	Company	Price Chg/pen 1% P/E			
High Stock	Price Chg Yield	Right Low Stock	Price Chg Yield	High Low Company	Price Chg/pen 1% P/E	High Yld	Low Company	Price Chg/pen 1% P/E	High Yld	High Low Company	Price Chg/pen 1% P/E	High Yld	Low Company	Price Chg/pen 1% P/E	High Yld	High Low Company	Price Chg/pen 1% P/E	High Yld	High Low Company	Price Chg/pen 1% P/E	High Yld	High Low Company	Price Chg/pen 1% P/E			
BRENT FUNDS				COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL					INSURANCE							INVESTMENT TRUSTS							PROPERTY			
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kitchen, shower, double
garage, trees, garage.

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Member of public can bring action without Attorney General's consent

Gouriet v. Union of Post Office Workers and others

Before Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Lawton and Lord Justice Ormrod

The Court of Appeal, giving reserved judgments on questions of major constitutional importance, declined to follow the long accepted practice that a member of the public cannot bring an action in the civil courts to restrain a threatened breach of the law if he or she unless the Attorney General, in the exercise of his discretion, gives his consent to a relator action.

In the first case in which the question has been directly in issue, their Lordships granted a declaration to a plaintiff, Mr John Gouriet, secretary of the National Association for Freedom, notwithstanding the refusal of the Attorney General's consent to his bringing an action to restrain the Union of Post Office Workers and the Post Office Engineering Workers from continuing the practice of the Post Office Act by calling for a boycott on mail to South Africa, he was entitled to proceed with the action. The form of the declaration is subject to revision when the parties have had an opportunity to consider its terms and submit them to the court.

Mr George Newman for Mr Gouriet; Mr Mark Saville, QC, with Mr Ian Hunter for the Union of Post Office Workers and others; Mr John Veevers for the Post Office Engineering Union; the Attorney General; Mr Samuel Sulkin, QC, with Mr Harry Woolf in his own right.

THE MASTER OF THE ROLLS said on January 15 that the ordinary citizen could sue the court, on behalf, he said, of the public at large. He said that a powerful trade union was breaking the law and would go on breaking it and asked for an order restraining the union from doing so. The court made the order—in the very words of a statute of the realm. The order was effective. The union, to their credit, obeyed it. There had been no doubt about the breach of the law had been averred.

Yet on January 18 the Attorney General had come before the court, and speaking with all the great authority of his office, he had rebuked the court.

We had our lordships take

the order, no right to do it without his consent: and that he had refused his consent. It was for him—and for him alone—to decide whether the union should be restrained from breaking the law and that he was going to do nothing to make any application to the court. And no member of the public could come either.

That is in Lordship's mind, was contrary to the spirit of the law of England. The courts were open to every citizen who came and complained that the law was being broken. So long as he had a proper case for considering the point he had to hear it. He was not to be turned away on some technical objection about locus standi. That was why the court had heard Mr Blackburne LR v. Metropolitan Police Commissioner Ex parte Blackburne [1958] 1 QB 139, when it was complained that the commissioner was not enforcing the law as he should and why the court had heard Mr Ross McWhirter when he told the court that the Independent Broadcasting Authority was about to fail in its statutory duties ([1973] 1 QB 629). That was why the court had heard Mr Gouriet.

Yet the submission had been made; and the master was of such great constitutional importance that it had to be examined in detail. It arose out of events in South Africa. It had no problem. The handling of the problem of the organization of labour in trade unions by the South African government had come under criticism by the international trade union organizations. They launched a campaign of protest against South Africa and called on the trade unions of other countries to support it for international solidarity."

Trade union leaders in England responded, and asked their unions to boycott all dealings with South Africa for one month from January 15. The Union of Post Office Workers determined to impose a boycott of all communications between this country and South Africa. It was all done very quickly without consulting the workers and before anyone had anything to say.

The time came when, on Thursday, January 13, the UPW executive unanimously decided to impose a boycott. They knew that it might possibly be illegal; yet it must be inferred from the evidence—considered—that they decided to do it.

On that very evening it was reported on the nine o'clock news bulletin that the union executives had resolved to call on their members to interfere with the passage of mail in the course of transmission by post between South Africa and England and Wales. Immediately afterwards the general secretary spoke on television. It was clear that he had in fact lied. He replied that the matter had never been tested in the courts, and that the laws relating to it dated from Queen Anne and were more appropriate for dealing with highwaymen and highway robbers.

The next day, The Times carried a report. With unanimous resolve, the 31 members of the executive of the Union of Post Office Workers decided yesterday to ban all telephone calls and under the Post Office Act and boycott all telephone calls, mail and telegrams to South Africa next week. Their action, taken in response to a call for international solidarity from the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, was being followed by other unions who hope to influence apartheid policy. . .

The Post Office Engineering Union said it would instruct its members to provide no mailing or circuit to the country except in a matter of life or death".

The court knew nothing of the National Association for Freedom except that it had a secretary, Mr Gouriet. It was said by its solicitor that there was no concern of their Lordships. On the Friday morning Mr Gouriet consulted lawyers to see if the union's action was lawful or not; and if it was unlawful, whether anything could be done to stop it.

If the Attorney General took action himself, it would be "acted upon" as an *ex officio*, in which he would be bound by the weight of his office and authority behind it. If he did not but gave his consent for Mr Gouriet to take action—his flat, as lawyers called it—the action would be what was called a "relator action"—an action by an Attorney General "on the relation of Mr Gouriet" or more understandably on the information given by Mr Gouriet. In that case the Attorney would himself, in strictness of law, be the party to the suit, but Mr Gouriet would be "the life of the suit"; *Cabot v. Parker* (1843, p 358) if he failed Mr Gouriet would be liable to pay

the costs; but, as relator, he would be acting not on behalf of himself alone, or on the association of which he was secretary, but on behalf of the public at large.

At 12.45 pm on the Friday the Attorney General was asked for his consent. At 3.32 pm he refused, saying: "Having considered all the circumstances, including the public interest, I have come to the conclusion that it is related to the application I should not give my consent." Thereupon Mr Gouriet issued a writ in his own name against the union, asking for an injunction to restrain it from breaking the law. He applied to Mr Justice Stocker. He chambered for an injunction. It was refused. Mr Gouriet appealed to their Lordships' court. The court granted a injunction which the union had obeyed. So the proposed boycott did not take place.

At the heart of the case lay the question: Suppose a trade union or its officials called on the court, on behalf of the public at large, to restrain the Post Office from doing something? Could the union, for example, refuse to accept a named firm or to a named country, was their action lawful?

In some quarters doubts had been expressed. On November 12, Mr Justice Searle of South Africa, a member of the House of Commons, that the question "has never been tested in a court". In the absence of any court decision, it would be most improper for a trade union to do what it would suffer special damage from doing. In a trade union it could be assumed that if there is good ground for supposing that a government department or a public authority—or his Lordship would now add, a trade union—"is transgressing the law, or is about to transgress the law, or is threatening to transgress the law, or is about to threaten to transgress the law, or is causing or threatening to cause or threaten to cause damage to any person or persons who would be adversely affected by the boycott, just the same as everyone else." If he wished to communicate with anyone in South Africa during the time the boycott would prevent him.

Mr Newman had pointed out another objection. He gave an account of a case last November when the Union of Post Office Workers imposed a boycott on all mail from a named firm. The firm was offering special damage and brought an action against the union to stop it. Within four days the union settled the case with the company, leaving itself free to impose a boycott on all other cases. Mr Newman did not point out the present case to go off like that one because he was here concerned for the public at large and not for any one individual.

The law had provided a special machinery for the protection of the public at large. It shamed the public into a criminal offence.

It was agreed that the union could not imagine it could be prosecuted in the criminal courts for dealing with highways and footways.

Since doubts had been expressed in such high quarters, his Lordship said as firmly as he could that if a trade union or its officers gave such a call to its workers, it would be acting unlawfully. It mattered not that the call was in contemplation or furtherance of a criminal offence.

The Attorney disputed that principle. He said that there was nothing to support it. But his Lordship had discovered that the union settled the case with the company, leaving itself free to impose a boycott on all other cases.

Mr Thorson then brought forward the UPP's general secretary.

This master had never been involved in a court case relating to it date from Queen Anne and are more appropriate for dealing with highways and footways".

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Law Report January 27 1977

of Lords

Corruption Acts: gas board a 'public body'

Mammets and Another v Lord Diplock, Lord Hall, St. Marylebone, Lord of Gladstone, Lord Kilbrandon and Lord Edmund-Davies (former North Thames Gas was a public body under the meaning of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1959, defined in section 4 (3) 1916 Act. Other similar a public ownership which has or statutory duties and which performs those and carry out their functions for the benefit of the public not for private profit similarly be public bodies context.

Judge of Lords dismissed appeals by Ernest and Michael Francis on the Court of Appeal in London, Mr Justice (and Mr Justice Peter Pain) was, January 20, 1976: "WLR 909."

Appellants were convicted at Criminal Court of against the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1959, of consideration as an inducement to give favour to contractor Murphy & Sons Ltd, in to the business of the same Gas Board by which was given to the Judge, giving a ruling that he in R v Joy and Emmony 30 Cr App R 332, ruled gas board can been a body" within the Prevention of Corruption Acts. He directed a jury that they could consider the definition of the 1916 Act was that, if they were a gift or consideration proved the onus lay to prove that it had given a receipt of an inducement to show Murphys.

try convicted the appellants were fined £50. The Court of Appeal their appeals against holding that since 1948 was constituted a Gas Act, 1948, to public or statutory duties for it of the public and had operated to make a profit. It had been a "public within the definition in (2) of the 1916 Act, according to Judge Rigg's been correct. They appellants leave to appeal from the decision of the North Thames Gas successor body and other bodies in public not described specific creating status as bodies are public bodies meaning of those words "vention of Corruption 1959, in section 1 of the 1916 Act. pro If any agent corruptly from any person, for "any gift or considerate inducement . . . for "favour . . . to my relation to his business or business; or if any corruptly gives [etc] ; he ability of an offence."

2 of the 1916 Act provides: "Where in any proceedings person for an offence [1906 Act], it is . . . and necessary, that administration has been paid or received by a person or agent of . . . a public from a person, or agent in, holding or seeking to contract from . . . any other person, or agent, such sum shall be deemed to have been paid or given and corruptly as such inducement reward as is mentioned unless the contrary is

(2) provides: "In this expression 'public bodies' . . . local and bodies of all descriptions

of £20,000
shing
tish limit
Correspondent

the fishing captain, the to be convicted of the British Limit Act came into force during the year, was 100 at Lerwick Sheriff today.

Jusnesen, master of the found guilty of fishing inside the limit off He said in court that he showed he was outside the limit, but from British naval HMS Alfriston showed as continuously inside from the time he was

Alistair Macdonald to be determined in if the fine is paid. The is three months. He warned not to expect such amount from him in may seem severe", but when you consider the value of the catch lenient. The catch in would certainly have scated if it had been but neither the catch nor are available to me, and circumstances will again being lenient in this e it is the first prosecution the new Act. But the are very difficult to the rewards of success g are very large."

If constable asked for legation by committee

Mr Parr, Chief Constable, is to be present at the county police "certain matters" con report from a fellow constable investigating committee decided yesterday at the press and pub excluded. As Oxtord, Chief Constable, Hampshire, was asked her to investigate const Mr Parr. The of the complaints not disclosed, within the

Appointments Vacant also on page 30

LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

ALANCAFE Legal Staff, the specialist consultants to the profession, offer a confidential service to employers requiring legal advice. Telephone for appointment or interview with Mr Alancafe or Mr Gaze, 01-205 2050, 10 Grosvenor St., London, W.C.1. Off Kingsway.

GUILDFORD SOLICITORS require a highly qualified solicitor for most. Please telephone Guildford 70281.

UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

University of Reading CENTRE FOR APPLIED LANGUAGE STUDIES

TUTORSHIPS IN ENGLISH AS A FOREIGN LANGUAGE

Applications are invited for THE post of Tutor in English as a Foreign Language in the Centre for Applied Language Studies. Applicants must have a post-graduate qualification in EFL teaching and/or applied linguistics and/or experience of teaching English as a Foreign Language in the Middle East or non-English speaking countries.

The post is available to two of the posts. Persons appointed will be required to work full-time for a period of three years in the first instance, subject to the usual probationary period.

Further information may be obtained from Dr. J. C. Phillips (House), The University, Whiteknights, Reading, Berks RG6 2AS, where applications should be received not later than 26 February 1977.

University of Reading CENTRE FOR APPLIED LANGUAGE STUDIES

DIRECTOR OF COURSES ENGLISH AS A FOREIGN LANGUAGE

Applications are invited for the post of Director of Courses in the Centre for Applied Languages Studies. The post is appointed with responsibility for developing and maintaining courses for teachers of English as a Foreign Language. The post holder should possess a good honours degree in English and/or applied linguistics. They should also have experience in a non-European country and/or considerable experience of teacher-training. The person appointed will be required to teach one subject as soon as possible, but no further information may be obtained from Dr. J. C. Phillips (House), The University, Whiteknights, Reading, Berks RG6 2AS, where applications should be received not later than 26 February 1977.

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Applications are invited for the post of Director of Courses in the Centre for Applied Languages Studies. The post is appointed with responsibility for developing and maintaining courses for teachers of English as a Foreign Language. The post holder should possess a good honours degree in English and/or applied linguistics. They should also have experience in a non-European country and/or considerable experience of teacher-training. The person appointed will be required to teach one subject as soon as possible, but no further information may be obtained from Dr. J. C. Phillips (House), The University, Whiteknights, Reading, Berks RG6 2AS, where applications should be received not later than 26 February 1977.

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Appointments Vacant also on page 29

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